JOHN BULL, DECEMBER 9, 1939.
VOL. LXVI. 1747

BIG XMAS X-WORD—PENSION DOUBLED!

JOHN BULL

TWOPENCE

FREE AIR RAID INSURANCE

In these Nerve-wearing days—

Remember that Ovaltine Sleep *is* Nerve-restoring Sleep

TO-DAY, more than ever, you are living on your nerves. The wear and tear is enormous and unless this is made good the consequences are irritability, bad temper, lack of efficiency and possibly a breakdown. Only nerve-building nourishment and nerve-restoring sleep can overcome the strain. It is for this reason that you should make 'Ovaltine' your regular daytime and bedtime beverage.

Delicious 'Ovaltine' is a *tonic* food beverage. Its abundance of nerve-building nutriment is largely derived from the new-laid eggs which are liberally used in its manufacture. Remember—the eggs in 'Ovaltine' make it the complete *tonic food.*

Furthermore, although entirely free from drugs, 'Ovaltine' possesses special properties which induce natural, peaceful sleep. And while you sleep its balanced, health-giving nourishment stores up new energy and rebuilds the worn cells and tissues of nerves, brain and body. Thus you awake in the morning re-vitalised, confident and cheerful, ready to make the most of the day.

But be sure you insist on 'Ovaltine.' There is a world of difference between 'Ovaltine' and imitations made to *look* the same.

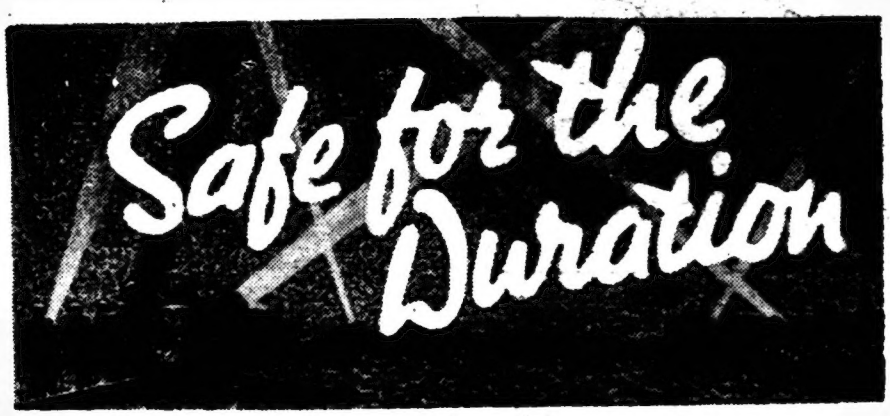
'Ovaltine' does not contain any Household Sugar. Furthermore, it does not contain Starch. Nor does it contain a large percentage of Cocoa.

Because of its outstanding merit 'Ovaltine' is the food beverage most frequently recommended by Doctors—most widely used in Hospitals and Nursing Homes—and most popular throughout the world.

Drink delicious OVALTINE

—and note the difference in your Nerve-strength and Outlook!

P506A



"I am acknowledging receipt of 'John Bull' Free Air Raid Insurance and Comprehensive Household Security Gift. From now on, for the duration of war, I shall feel quite safe and secure."

So writes a "John Bull" reader, M. D. D., of Shoreham-by-Sea.

This letter, typical of thousands that are arriving at our offices, interprets the thoughts of tens of thousands of families who are now safeguarded by "John Bull's" Gift of

A FREE £200 AIR RAID INSURANCE POLICY

underwritten at LLOYD'S

FOR EVERY READER

"Safe and Secure"—three little words the significance of which grows deeper every day—three words that give new heart, and courage—three words that enable men and women to face with confidence the daily threat of bombs.

In addition to Free Air Raid Insurance "John Bull" also offers a Free Comprehensive Household Security Gift.

"JOHN BULL" WILL BE THERE

Here is a letter written by a reader when acknowledging the prompt cheque :—

"Thank you so much for your prompt and generous settlement of my claim as a Registered Reader of 'John Bull.' The property stolen was a great personal loss to my wife and myself . . . Therefore, once again our sincere thanks to you. Congratulations to you on your initiative in making available to all Registered Readers of 'John Bull' the great additional Air Raid protection. Should the need arise Registered Readers will know 'John Bull' will be there."

E. W. R., Hampstead.

Below are brief details of "John Bull's" Free Air Raid Insurance and Comprehensive Household Security Gift :—

AIR RAID BENEFITS

£200	should the Registered Reader and his wife be killed.
£100	for either.
£100	for loss of two limbs.
£100	for loss of sight of both eyes.
£100	for loss of one limb and sight of one eye.
£50	for loss of one limb.
£50	for loss of sight of one eye.

The above benefits will be paid for death or injury as defined caused by any aircraft anywhere in the United Kingdom, including injury caused by bombs, splinters of bombs, shells, projectiles or missiles, collapse of buildings, and poisoning or blindness by gas or liquid released by any aircraft.

COMPREHENSIVE HOUSEHOLD BENEFITS

FIRE up to £1,000. GAS EXPLOSION up to £100. BURST HOT-WATER PIPES up to £100. STORM & FLOOD up to £300. DAMAGE BY LIGHTNING up to £300. 'DAMAGE TO WIRELESS up to £10. BURGLARY & HOUSE-BREAKING up to £500.

Sign for security to-day! This DOUBLE protection is FREE! You dare not delay. To-morrow may be too late!

ONE REGISTRATION COVERS BOTH HUSBAND AND WIFE

REGISTRATION FORMS FOR THIS GREAT WAR-TIME DOUBLE SECURITY GIFT ARE ON PAGE 29

FOR THE MEN IN KHAKI!
FOR THE LADS IN BLUE!
FOR THE BOYS OF THE AIR!
FOR THE GIRLS IN UNIFORM!

FOR YOURSELF

See John Bull's Great Xmas Gift on Page 33.

EVERY OFFER COVERED BY MONEY-BACK GUARANTEE ON PAGE 5.

1. Large bull's-eye.
2. Red for crossing road.
3. Blue light, fog and mist lamp.
4. White light for picking out objects.

Lights change with simple touch of finger. Complete with Police Trouble Free, Double Life "Anti-Dazzle" Battery, Automatic 3-way switch. Throws beam **ahead** and **around you** instantaneously. Produced for **War Service** and at pre-war price, 2/9, post, etc., 3d. **Take notice of a coroner's recent warning,** but buy this torch which safely takes you across the road, picks out objects and has a special blue mist and fog beam. Spare Double Life Batteries, 3 for 9d., post 3d., 8 for 2/- post free. Spare bulbs 2 for 5d.

G. DAVIES (Dept. J.B.T.6), Government Contractor,
Excel House, Whitcomb Street, Leicester Square, W.C.2. Showroom through Excel Court.

100,000 Pocket-lite "Anti-Dazzle" A.R.P. torch batteries. Fits the Popular No. 8 size case, which is in use in 95 out of every 100 torch cases. The "Anti-Dazzle" Battery that will get you home safe without the fear of danger from the air, is self reduced and does not require any screwing. Price 2/6 for 12, post 4d., 25 for 5/6, including postage, 50 for 10/6 post free. Send to-day while stocks last. Bulbs at 2/6. 3-colour Automatic A.R.P. Torch, 2/6, post 3d. (as above).

G. DAVIES (Dept. J.B.B.6), Government Contractor, Excel House, Whitcomb Street, Leicester Square, W.C.2. Showroom through Excel Court.

★A FREE BOOK FOR MOTHERS

Send at once for your Copy!

EVERY mother ought to have a copy of a particularly valuable and common-sense handbook, "BABY," a wise, simple guide through all the ups and downs of baby's early days. It's simply yours for the asking. It is a complete guide to happy motherhood and healthy babyhood. Just send a post-card with your name and address clearly written on it, to Nestle's Milk Products, Ltd. (J.P.317), 6A, Eastcheap, London, E.C.3, and a free copy will be posted to you. A supplementary Feeding Chart will also be enclosed with each handbook.

FREE CATALOGUE of CIRO Famous Rings Pearls and Jewellery

CIRO creations challenge the closest comparison with fine real jewellery, however costly. These beautiful articles are inexpensive—from a guinea upwards (and on easy terms, if desired)—but you can detect any difference from more costly rings or jewellery your money will be refunded! Send to-day—NOW while you think of it—for magnificent free catalogues of exclusive Ciro rings, earrings, brooches, watches, regimental badges and other Ciro gems! Write at once, mentioning "John Bull" to CIRO, 48, Old Bond Street, London, W.1. Remember—Christmas is not so far away and presents will be needed! You can make your choice, now, from the catalogues!

CARPET BARGAINS

9/11

This Phenomenal Offer is made to "John Bull" readers. On receipt of P.O. 9/-, carr. 1/- ex., we will forward direct from our looms one of our "Prudential" Remnants REAL SEAMLESS WOVEN CARPETS. Suitable for Drawing, Dining and Bedroom, etc., handsomely bordered, in 30 Turkey patterns and fashionable shades of Crimson, Green, Brown, Blues, Rose and Art Colourings to suit all requirements and large enough to cover any ordinary-sized room. They are made of material equal to wool, and being a speciality of our own, can only be obtained direct from our Looms, saving purchaser all middle profits. Guaranteed genuine bargains. Money refunded if not approved. Thousands repeat Orders.

Illus. Bargain Catalogue post free.

With every Carpet we absolutely give away a handsome Rug to match. SPECIAL OFFER: 2 carpets, 2 Rugs and 2 door mats for 20/- Carriage Paid. Cash or C.O.D.

J. HODGSON & SONS (J.B.), Wortley Road, Leeds.

SPECIAL OFFER
CHIMNEY SWEEPING
and Drain Cleaning Machines.

30ft. Finest Quality Canes fitted Best Brass Screws and Sockets, 18in. Bass Chimney Brush. Postage 1/-. Ardnamedeus Drain cleaner included. Cash refunded if not satisfied.

14/6

OTHER SIZES: 40ft. 21/6, 50ft. 27/-, 60ft. 31/6, 80ft. 42/-, 100ft. 51/6. F.O.R.

The above are best Quality. LEAFLET of Sweeps' and Drain Tools POST FREE.

S. TYZACK & SON, LTD. (J.B. 40), 341, 343 & 345, Old Street, London, E.C.1.

THE BEST AMUSEMENT
for STAY-AT-HOME NIGHTS

BILLIARDS AND SNOOKER SET-53/6

All De Luxe Quality CASH

ALL FOR 1/- A WEEK

Includes Billiard Table, 50 by 25 in., with Billiard Cloth Bed, Perfect Cushions and Polished Frame. With two Cues, three Billiard Balls, seventeen Snooker Balls, Triangle, Marker, Chalks and Rules. All sent for 3/- Carriage Paid, to approved orders. Promise to send 25 Fortnightly Payments of 3/-. *Perfect Games Guaranteed.* Billiards, Outfit only 53/11 Cash or send for 3/-. Promise 19 Fortnightly Payments of 2/-. *(State full names and occupation).* Other Billiard Tables, 27/6 to 175/6 FREE—By Return—Big Catalogue. All Kinds of Bargains on Lowest Terms. *Delight or Money Back.*

PAIN'S Presents House, Ltd., Dept. 38.TR, Hastings. (Established 50 years)

SUTCLIFFES

FROM 10'11 MONTHLY.

Design T.L. GREENHOUSE

Six complete easy-fitting sections and staging, moulded weather board base, framed ventilators, half-glass door, mortices and tenon joints. Glass supplied, also paint for one coat after erection. Carriage paid.

Long.	Wide.	High.	Cash
7ft.	5ft.	6½ft.	£5 17 0
9ft.	6ft.	7 ft.	£7 1 0
10ft.	7ft.	7½ft.	£8 11 0
12ft.	8ft.	8 ft.	£10 19 0

Monthly Terms arranged (with reservations). Send Now for BIG, FREE CATALOGUE of GREEN-HOUSES, GARDEN SHEDS, POULTRY HOUSES, etc.

F. & E. Sutcliffe, Ltd., 32, Wood Top, Holden Bridge, Yorks.

5 BLANKETS FOR 20/-
AND 10/- BONUS FREE!

AMAZING OFFER. Heavy Woolly Blankets, White, Pink, or Air Force Blue (state alternative colour). Full size, Blue bordered. Warm and Enduring. ALL BRITISH. FIVE FOR 45, carr. pd., or C.O.D. 9d. extra. 10/- BONUS. To advertise our Catalogue every purchaser will receive 10/- worth of goods ENTIRELY FREE, which they may select from our Catalogue of bedding, ladies' and gent's clothing, fancy goods, watches, clocks, etc.

DON'T MISS THIS GIGANTIC OPPORTUNITY

5 Blankets and 10/- Bonus for 20/- only, or 2 Blankets and 5/- Bonus for 10/- only.

Send NOW. Money refunded if not satisfied.

LANCASHIRE PRODUCTS (Dept. J.P.), 19, CHARING CROSS ROAD, LONDON, W.C.2

1 WAY BEDCHAIR

Easy Chair Lounge Chair Full-length Bed Fireside Seat

FULL SIZE

21/-

69 in. long when extended, 23in. wide. Solid oak. 3 velvet cord cushions any colour; turned legs, spring seat. Call and inspect or send for new coloured Catalogue J. Cash or 1/- weekly H.P. Carriage Paid home, 2/-, Eng., Scot. and Wales.

NORTH BUCKS DIRECT TRADING CO., LTD. 52, Shaftesbury Avenue, Piccadilly Circus, London, W.1

HERE'S A SPLENDID Gift for XMAS

Price only 4/4

A handsome reading glass with chromium handles which fold up for pocket. Made in six charming colours with morocco case to match. Order from dealer or write at once for list G, illustrated in colour, to

SOHO LIMITED, 3, SOHO SQUARE, LONDON, W.1.

GUARANTEED 10 YEARS

YOURS FOR 6d.

Advance Design of the specially constructed 'STREAMLINE' shock-proof Wrist Watch, regulated, tested and fully guaranteed to keep perfect time under severe conditions. Non-magnetic, damp-proof, dust-proof, unbreakable glass, Lever Movement, fitted in highly polished Chromium-plated case, with new built-in lugs to ensure snug fitting round the wrist. Complete with leather strap free. Outstandingly plain white dial. Send 6d. deposit and packing now; if satisfactory, 1/6 after 7 days and 1/6 every 14 days until 21/- is paid in all. Cash Price 19/6.

LADIES' or GENTS' model

EDWARD BROS. (J.B.9.12) The Reliable Mail Order House, 6, Bloomsbury St., New Oxford St., London, W.C.1.

WONDERFUL 2 MINUTE TROUSER CREASER

ADJUSTS TO ANY WIDTH

PAIR

POST FREE 3 prs. 5/6 6 prs. 10/-

Magic is the only word for it. We challenge any tailor to produce a more perfect crease. Miles better than any Press. Makes hogging trousers hang with faultless knife crease and takes only two minutes to use as shown. No screws, springs or wires. Packs flat. Everlasting wear.

ALSO IDEAL FOR ARMY TROUSERS.

FREE GIFT OF MARVELLOUS TIE STRETCHER with 2 pairs. 5/6. Two gifts with 6 pairs. 10/-

Wm. PENN, Ltd. (Dept. K.J.B.), 623, Holloway Rd., London, N.19

PIANO ACCORDIONS
BY ALL THE MOST FAMOUS MAKERS

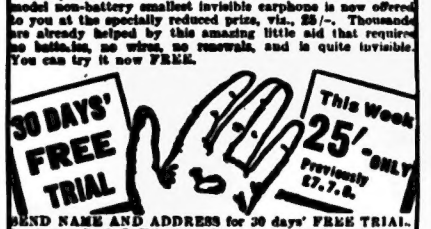
Benelli, Stoidesi Vivimio, Pancotti, Hohner, Crucianelli, Paolo Soprani, etc., used and recommended by Band Leaders all over the country. Here we offer a very wonderful Bargain. 84 Gn. VALUE for 45/-. Piano Finished Cabinet "Stoidesi," Metal-bound Bellows, Triple Chord Action; 21 Piano Keys, 8 Bass; Complete with Shoulder Strap. Send only 3/- Deposit for 7 Days' Trial. If satisfactory you pay Balance by Monthly Payments of 4/- until 45/- is paid. Full Cash after Approval, 42/- only. Elaborate Tutor. Also Superior De Luxe Model at 55/6, same terms, other models 23 Keys, 12 Bass; 25 Keys, 24 Bass; 34 Keys, 48 Bass; 41 Keys, 120 Bass, all on Easy Terms. Write for fully illustrated List of Piano Accordions and other Musical Instruments post free.

from 1/- weekly

J. A. DAVIS & CO. (Dept. J.B.71) 94-104, DENMARK HILL, LONDON, S.E.5.

DEAF
NATIONAL SAFETY

It is essential for the safety of all concerned to hear all Signals correctly. Don't run extra risks. Our new Silver De Luxe model non-battery smallest invisible earphone is now offered to you at the specially reduced price, viz., 25/-. Thousands are already helped by this amazing little aid that requires no batteries, no wires, no renewals, and is quite invisible. You can try it now FREE.



SEND NAME AND ADDRESS for 30 days' FREE TRIAL. Send now. D. & J. Hill, Ltd. (Dept. B.4), 245, Oxford Street, London, W.1. (Over Oxford Circus Tube Station.) (Hours 10 to 6, Sats. 10 to 1.) Supplied under National Health Benefit.

TRUSSES ABOLISHED

SEND FOR FREE BOOKLET OF THE BRITISH RUPTURE APPLIANCE RECOMMENDED BY MEDICAL PROFESSION. Gives Wonderful Relief.

A washable cushion, inflated and adjusted in a second to pressure required. Cannot slip; light, comfortable. Holds Hernia firmly. Broken tissues re-unite. Members of Approved Societies may obtain free appliances.

BEASLEY'S LTD., Dept. 208, 45, CONDUIT ST., LONDON, W.1

Or 270, DEANSGATE, MANCHESTER.

Yours for 2/6 deposit

LIQUIDATION STOCK THOUSANDS OF WONDERFUL BARGAINS OFFERED ON EASY TERMS SEND FOR OUR ILLUSTRATED LIST POST FREE OF PLATINUM SET DIAMOND & GEM RINGS WATCH BRACELETS GENTS POCKET & WRISTLET WATCHES

ILLUSTRATED LIST POST FREE

SOLID GOLD English Hall Marked Keyless WRIST WATCH with expanding Bracelet Attached. Tested Movement. Timed to a minute a month. Fully warranted 10 years.

Send 2/6 Deposit only for free approval. If satisfactory balance payable 5/- Monthly until 50/6 is paid. Cash with order or within 7 days 55/- only.

Write for illustrated list Jewellery, Rings, etc.

DAVIS & CO. (Dept. J.B. 13), 94-104, Denmark Hill, S.E.5.

YOURS 3/6

A MARVELLOUS BARGAIN

2 Heavy White Blankets, with Blue borders and whipped edges. Size 58in. x 78in.; 2 Heavy Winter Blankets, special double-weight; 2 Unbleached Twill Sheets, 70in. x 90in.; 2 Hemmed Pillow Cases; 1 Full Size Bolster Case; 2 Turkish Towels; 1 Sateen-finished Wadded Quilt, in selected floral design; 1 Embroidered Jaspe Bedspread; 1 Embroidered Art Silk Table Centre. Also handsome Art Silk Embroidered Tea Cloth, 4 Serviettes to match. Complete Bale sent for your free Approval on receipt of 3/6 Deposit. If satisfactory Balance Payable 5/- Monthly until 50/6 is paid, or Full Cash, after 7 days, 55/- only. Write for illustrated Bedding List.

J. A. DAVIS & CO. (Dept. J.B.39), 94-104, Denmark Hill, London, S.E.5.

GENUINE LONDON BUS DRIVERS' OVERCOATS

Part Post 1/- extra

18/6

A rare opportunity which should not be missed. Genuine London Bus Drivers' Overcoats, only very slightly worn. Full double-breasted style with Leather cuffs and Leather-bound pockets. Heavy Navy Cloth. Large collar. Full double warmth cloth lined. Ideal for Lorry Drivers, Motor Cyclists, Road and Farm Workers, etc. Each Garment has been cleaned and pressed, will give many years of hard service. All sizes 36 to 52in. chest—state chest and height when ordering. ORDER NOW—only a small quantity available. Satisfaction or cash refunded. Also genuine LONDON BUS DRIVERS REEFERS at 9/3 plus 9d. postage

WILLSON BROS. (Dept. A), UPPER HIGH STREET, EPSOM, SURREY. (Government Contractors)

KEEP ALL THE FAMILY HAPPY. .

DURING THE BLACK OUT

Play RILEY BILLIARDS and ensure relaxation. 8/6 DOWN brings delivery of a Riley "Home" Billiard Table. Now more than ever it is essential to provide healthy entertainment at home. There is nothing like Riley Billiards to ensure this. 7 DAYS' FREE TRIAL. Carr. paid. Pay Balance Monthly.

E. J. RILEY Ltd., Anson Works, ACCRINGTON

W Dept. 12, 46/47, *Newgate St.*—*London, E.C.1.*

WRITE for ART LIST

BANKRUPT STOCK

ONLY 750 FOR DISPOSAL

HIGH POWER TELESCOPES

4/9 POST 6d.

Amazing value even at many times our price, this long-range telescope gives perfect vision over many miles, in fact it is possible to READ NAME OF SHIPS MILES AWAY. Scientifically ground and adjusted lenses giving high magnification. Fitted four firm burnished BRASS extensions.

Scientifically Perfect for Field, Aero and Marine Use.

Wm. PENN, LTD. (Dept. J.B.T.), 623, HOLLOWAY RD., LONDON, N.19.

I'll Teach You to play the Piano

WITHOUT DRUDGERY, FATIGUE OR FAILURE

Even if you are of middle age and do not know a note, I can quickly make you play so that you will be welcome everywhere. Sun-clear, Fascinating, Original Lessons from ordinary music, no freakish methods. BY POST in your home, making failure impossible, and enabling you to read and Play at sight any standard musical composition. I have enrolled more than 275 adult pupils during the war, have taught over 51,000 during 35 years and I CAN TEACH YOU.

PROOF.—Beginner, 49071, age 39: "During these days of strain I turn to my music for relaxation and enjoyment."

Beginner, 43166, age 39: "I think your System of sight-reading is without equal."

Beginner, 49413, age 24: "Your Course is wonderful."

Beginner, 49361, age 46: "It is a solace to go to the piano, and be soothed and calmed when everything else is so difficult."

Send for free booklet, "Mind, Muscle and Keyboard," and form for free advice. Say if Advanced, Moderate, Elementary, or Beginner.

Mr. H. BECKER (*British by Birth and Descent*) (Dept. 481), 69, FLEET STREET, LONDON, E.C.4.

BUILD A BUSINESS BY MAIL

Shopkeepers & Manufacturers.

The war has restricted travelling and more people are shopping by post every day, so why not advertise in "John Bull's" famous "Shop Window" and sell countrywide? Expert advice on suitability of goods and advertisements written by "John Bull's" mail order specialist—free, of course. Details without obligation. Write on business letterheading to:—

The Manager, Ideas and Sales Development Department, "JOHN BULL," Room 29, 67/69, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Blankets Free

to all purchasers of our A.R.P. Black-Out Blinds (NAVY BLUE) Sizes 72 x 36 to 72 x 48 Hemmed for rod.

3 for 5/. 7 for 10!

All above sizes post free. Larger sizes made to order. 10/- BONUS. To advertise our Catalogue every purchaser of 7 Blinds for 10/- will receive 10/- WORTH OF GOODS ENTIRELY FREE, which they may select from our Catalogue of Blankets, Bedding, Ladies' & Gent's Clothing, Fancy Goods, Watches, Clocks, A.R.P. Necessities, etc. Don't miss this opportunity.

3 Navy Blue A.R.P. Blinds and 5/- Bonus for 5/- only, or 7 Navy Blue A.R.P. Blinds and 10/- Bonus for 10/- only. This AMAZING OFFER is open for TEN DAYS ONLY. So send NOW.

LANCASHIRE PRODUCTS (Dept. J.B.), 19, Charing Cross Road, London, W.C.2.

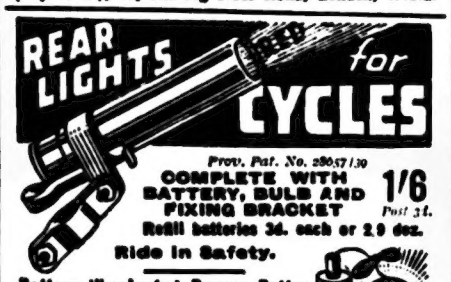
FIRELIGHTER WITHOUT WOOD OR PAPER

PENN'S INSTANT FIRELIGHTER instantly lights coal or coke fire. No wood or paper required. Can be used indefinitely. This British-made FIRELIGHTER is a great labour-saver and is wanted in every home. Does not burn away. Always ready. No mess. Quick and economical. Saves relaying fires. Can be lit thousands of times with a match.

Excellent also for reviving a dead fire and for burning garden rubbish.

Wm. PENN, LTD. (Dept. F. J.B.), 623, Holloway Rd., London, N.19.

REAR LIGHTS for CYCLES



Provv. Pat. No. 29057/39

COMPLETE WITH BATTERY, BULB AND FIXING BRACKET 1/6 Post 3d.

Refill batteries 3d. each or 2/9 doz.

Ride in Safety.

Battery Illuminated Beacon Button

Fits to the lapel and shows where you are. Can be fitted to dog's collar. Complete with battery and bulb. Price 9d., post 3d. Refill batteries 4d. each. Can be converted into a torch by fitting extra bulb, price 4d.

From all dealers or direct from

Chiswick Engineering Ltd. (Dept. J.B.1), 7 High Rd., Chiswick, London, W.4 *Trade Enquiries Invited.*

LAST CHANCE—APPLY TO-DAY

for the most thrilling Novelty ever invented

THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF WORKING MODELS

"John Bull's" Xmas Gift to the Children of its readers

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY!

As it is so near to Christmas "John Bull," this week, has departed from its usual Presentation Terms and has made special arrangements for this Book to be obtained without delay—well in time for Xmas. You simply post Forms and remittance NOW—and your Book will then be sent to you at once!

FATHERS! Mothers! Uncles! Aunts! Don't forget the children.

Now more than ever before they need something fascinating and lasting, like "John Bull's" "MAMMOTH BOOK OF WORKING MODELS" AND THE WONDER POWER UNIT.

This week, owing to the tremendous demand, "John Bull" provides a further, but final, opportunity to secure the finest Christmas Gift ever devised for the children—"THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF WORKING MODELS" AND "THE WONDER POWER UNIT." Moreover, in order that readers can secure their book in time for Christmas, "John Bull" has made special distribution arrangements enabling you to secure your book with the least possible delay. This wonderful, entirely new book of working models for which in the ordinary way you would have to pay a considerable sum, is yours for the amazingly low privilege price of only 3/9, which includes carriage, packing, insurance, etc.—A MARVELLOUS BARGAIN! But you must apply instantly if you are to make sure of a copy and if you want to get your copy in time for Christmas. All applications will be dealt with and books dispatched in strict rotation. COMPLETE FORMS BELOW NOW AND POST THEM AT ONCE, TOGETHER WITH THE NECESSARY REMITTANCE. Do it to-day and make sure that your child doesn't miss this marvellous Christmas Gift.

Think! Real models out of a book! Eleven large size lifelike FULL COLOUR models and the Wonder Power Unit. All you have to do is open the book, then with a gentle pressure of the fingers you separate the model parts—put them together—and hey presto! THEY ALL WORK—just like the real thing! It is a book which will provide hours and hours of continuous thrilling fun and entertainment.

Full instructions are supplied with each book. There is a Full Kit of accessories, including spares and special model glue.

THE WONDER POWER UNIT which drives some of the working models works without oil, steam, electricity, water or light, and is simple and absolutely harmless—every child can work it. Size 13 in. high by 8 in. wide.

And now for the Eleven Models:

TOWER BRIDGE OF LONDON. Size 14 in. wide by 9½ in. high by 7 in. deep.

QUEEN ELIZABETH. Size 13 in. long by 1½ in. wide.

THE CORONATION SCOT. Size, 11½ in. long by 2½ in. wide.

A MERRY-GO-ROUND. Size 20 in. diameter by 13 in. high.

THE CRANE. Size, 6 in. high by 5½ in wide with a 10 in. arm.

THE VERTICAL STEAM ENGINE. Size 8½ in. high, base 4½ in.

SEAPLANE. Length 6½ in., wing span 7½ in.

BIPLANE. Length, 7½ in., wing span 9½ in.

MONOPLANE. Length 7 in., wing span 10½ in.

SPINNING WHEEL. Size, 6½ in. high by 8 in. wide.

THE CAR OF THE FUTURE. Size, 13½ in. long by 4½ in. wide.

What a thrilling set of models—your child will jump for joy and excitement when you present this marvellous book!

DO THIS NOW

Fill in the Final Order Form and Label below and post them at once together with a Postal Order for the necessary remittance. Your volume will then immediately be dispatched to your home to reach you in time for Christmas.

Remember! This is your last chance to secure for a very nominal amount a book that means weeks of pleasure and entertainment for your child. Post Final Forms below and remittance at once.

OUT ACROSS DOTTED RULE

"JOHN BULL"

BOOK PRESENTATION FINAL

Privilege Order Form

ADDRESS envelope exactly as shown below and post to:—

MODEL BOOK PRESENTATION, DEPT. J.M.3, "JOHN BULL," 39, Earlham Street, LONDON, W.C.2. (Prof.).

Please send me a copy of "THE MAMMOTH BOOK OF WORKING MODELS," 1940, carriage paid. I enclose the amount specified below.

IMPORTANT

The label on the right will be used for sending you details of the Privilege Price Book Club, whose wonderful bargains you are entitled to enjoy as a recipient of the Model Book. Fill in, affix a halfpenny stamp, and return with your Order Form.

REMITTANCE TO BE SENT.

3/9 which includes Carriage, Packing, Insurance.

These Forms and remittance must be posted in a sealed envelope bearing a 1½d. stamp.

Postal Order No.....Amount (3/9).....Date.....

Cheque or P.O. should be crossed & Co. and made payable Odhams Press Ltd.

Write clearly in BLOCK LETTERS.

YOUR NAME.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS .....

.....

DATE.....

The last day for receipt of Reservations from this announcement is Tuesday, December 19. Offer applies only to Gt. Britain, Northern Ireland and Eire. "John Bull," 9/12/39.

A halfpenny stamp MUST be affixed here by you.

NAME

.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS

.....

.....

J.M.3 .....

SMALL TRADERS, ETC.

BE YOUR OWN MASTER. Sell Drapery Bargains at a fair profit. Silk Stockings, Men's Socks and Children's Wear. 1,000 Bargains. A.B.C. Guide Free.—Cochrane's Warehouse, 1, Thomas Street, Manchester.

CROCKERY. 120 asstd. articles 10/-. 48 cups, scrs. 4/-. Glass & Hardware. Dinner Set Free. Cat. & Guide Free.—Bridge St. Pottery,9, Burslem.

PROFITABLE GOODS TO SELL, every kind. Bazaar Goods, Toys, Fancy Goods, etc.—144-page Catalogue free.—MAY (128), Birmingham.

SONGSTER GRAMOPHONE NEEDLES, scientifically made. Perfect reproduction. Minimum wear on records. 200 for 6d. Bronze pick-ups for Radios, 6d. per 100.

SELL direct from our Free Catalogues of Household, Fashion and Fancy Goods. Shopkeepers, Traders and Beginners should write to Dept. J.B., The Houndsditch Warehouse Co., Ltd., Houndsditch, London, E.C.3.

DRAPERS.—104-page Illus. Winter Catalogue post free. Covers all depts., also Boots and Shoes. Finest selection of perfect goods at Keenest prices. Satis. guid. Trade Only.—Myers & Co. (L. & H.), Ltd., 7, Trinity St., Leeds, 1.

AGENCIES, CLUBS.

ADD TO YOUR EARNINGS by running a G.U.S. SHILLING CLUB now. Big commis. Easy spare-time work aided by huge Catalogue of 3,000 Bargains. Send for complete outfit, value 7s. 6d., FREE, from Great Universal Stores, Devonshire Street, Ardwick, Manchester.

BARGAIN SALES.

WALLPAPER DIRECT from 2½d. per roll. SEND for patterns post free.—WEST RIDING WALLPAPER CO., 62, TRINITY ST., LEEDS.

A1 NOVELTIES for Dances, Hats, Balloons, Novelty Musical Instruments, Masks.—List J.B. 1585 free.—Dudley's, 451, Holloway Road, N.7.

WALLPAPER direct from works. 250 patterns, post free. Delivery as usual. — OSBORNE MILLS, Dept. 6, Rochdale Road, Manchester.

TORCHES for Xmas, 1939, will make an ideal gift. You can obtain one by referring to C. Davies' advertisement on Page 2

WALLPAPERS from 2½d. roll. New season's patterns. Post free both ways.—Bruce & Hall (J.B.) South Shields.

CARNIVAL HATS, NOVELTIES, BALLOONS, Decorations. Fancy Costumes. Illus. list free. —"Uneedus," 70/72, Arundel St., Portsmouth.

ARE you troubled over the shortage of batteries? Then lighten your worries by referring to C Davies' advertisement on Page 2.

EMPLOYMENT.

POLICEMEN WANTED for various parts of the country. Excellent pay, prospects and pensions. Ages 19-26. No experience. — For full details of easy Entrance write, B.T.I. (Dept. 602), 356, Oxford Street, W.1.

"John Bull" Guarantee

EVERY article advertised in JOHN BULL carries with it a "money back" guarantee.

All foods, food products, toilet preparations, medicines and drugs, and other articles capable of a laboratory test which have been approved by our experts are marked— In the case of medicines and drugs we guarantee that if they are taken or applied according to the directions they will have no injurious effects.

Naturally this guarantee applies only to manufactured articles, but every care is taken to satisfy ourselves as to the bona fides of all advertisements in JOHN BULL.

Any complaint must reach us within one month from the appearance of the advertisement in JOHN BULL and in the case of dispute the decision of our Managing Director shall be final.

ODHAMS PRESS LIMITED,
Proprietors of JOHN BULL.

SMALL ADS. WORTH WATCHING

RATE 10s. per line.

A line averages six words. Minimum Charge 30s.

Advertisements with remittance must be received not later than noon on Wednesday, 8 days before publication.

Address: The Advertisement Manager, "John Bull," 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2

TRACERS AND DRAWING OFFICE ASSISTANTS required urgently. Both sexes—all ages. Practical experience unnecessary. Those wishing to take up this well-paid work should apply immediately for Free Handbook to B.I.E.T. (Dept. 711), 17, Stratford Place, London, W.1.

POLICE FORCE.—Married and single men, age 19-27, urgently required for reserved occupations. Start £3 weekly and ordinary education now sufficient. For FREE GUIDE to simple entrance requirements apply CHAMBERS COLLEGE (Dept. 139), CHISLEHURST, KENT.

HOW TO STOP SMOKING.—Genuine remedy, proved by testimonials.—Write, The Stanley Institute, Ltd. (J.B.), 21, Warwick Lane, E.C.4.

FIGHT nerves, worry and fatigue with Wincarnis, the quick-action tonic! It puts new heart and life into you. See page 20.

ATTEND to inner cleanliness if you want to look and feel your best. A sparkling glass of Andrew's cleanses the entire system, sweeps away impurities and tones up the liver. See page 27.

Clever Hostesses who know how to make the party 'go'—

—make a POINT of it

War-time parties appreciate Amber Point British Sherry just as much as far more expensive wines — and it has this extra advantage: you can be as generous as you like without feeling extravagant.

You can find out how good Point Brand Wines are for as little as 10d.—that's the price of a quarter-flask. Ask for Red Point, rich ruby wine of Port character — or White Point, white sweet wine of Port character—or Amber Point, British Sherry.

2/6 A BOTTLE
Amber POINT *British Sherry*

WHY DO POINT BRAND WINES ... simply because they're produced with the finest grape juice, fermented and matured over here instead of in the country where the grapes are grown. Quite simple, really, but it saves you shillings a bottle in transport and other costs. It

COST ONLY 2/6 A BOTTLE? may sound quite a new idea but the "Point" people have been producing wines in just this way for over 30 years and their excellence has won the Gold Sealed Certificate of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene.

PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY VINE PRODUCTS LTD., KINGSTON, SURREY

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE OFFICERS. Reserved occupations for men over 25. Excellent pay and prospects. No exp. reqd. For FREE details of openings, etc., apply CHAMBERS COLLEGE (Dept. 319), CHISLEHURST, KENT.

CIVIL SERVICE POSTS. Entry by Examination has now been suspended. Both sexes who wish for employment in the Civil Service should send for particulars of our War-time Entrance service, and details of pay and duties in the various branches. — B.T.I. (Dept. 171), 356, Oxford Street, London, W.1.

DRAUGHTSMANSHIP.—Men over 21 wanted for reserved occupations. Thousands of openings in all branches of Engineering, Govt. Service, etc. No exp. reqd. FREE details of rapid preparation and employment service for these vacancies from CHAMBERS COLLEGE (Dept. 363A), CHISLEHURST, KENT.

MEDICAL, CURATIVE.

WORMS CURED.—Artico Brand Worm Tablets are a specialist's positive cure for removing the causes. No fasting, dieting or interference with daily habits. Send 1/6 for Generous supply or 1½d. stamp for details.—Ridyard Tablet Co., 34-38, Codnor, Derby.

DON'T WEAR A TRUSS! Use Brooks' Rupture Appliance, New Discovery. Wonderful! No lumpy pads, no springs. Durable, cheap. Binds and draws parts together quickly. Sent on trial. Catalogue free.—Address, Brooks Appliance Co. Ltd. (540D), 80, Chancery Lane, London, W.C.2.

FREE.—Send for a De Luxe Beauty Outfit of Powders and Skinfoods for both day and night use. Every woman reader can obtain one of these beauty outfits, which contains a special box of Poudre Tokalon and six samples of other shades, also Tokalon Skinfood Creams. Address: Tokalon, Ltd. (Dept. 422W), Chase Road, London, N.W.10. Enclose 3d. in stamps to cover cost of postage, packing, etc.

CATARRH sufferers. If you would like a trial bottle of Vick-Vatronol—the new brand nasal drops which end Catarrh misery—write, mentioning *John Bull*, to "Vick," (Dept. M.), 213, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.1, sending 2d. stamp. Offer appears on page 26.

FREE to mothers. Valuable book, "BABY"—a wise, complete and simple guide to happy motherhood and healthy babyhood. Also Nestlé's Supplementary Feeding Charts. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Nestlé's Milk Products, Ltd. (I.F.317), 6a, Eastcheap, London, E.C.3.

FREE to rheumatic sufferers! A free trial supply of Curicones, a valuable remedy for all forms of rheumatism, will be sent to readers who write, mentioning *John Bull* (Dept. J.B.2), Stephen Matthews & Co., Mfg. Chemist 19/21, Farringdon Street, London, E.C.4. Accompanying the trial supply will come a special booklet explaining all about the Curicone treatment.

FREE.—Send a p.c. for a generous free trial bottle of D.D.D. prescription.—Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to D.D.D. Laboratories (Dept. M.N.9), Fleet Lane, London, E.C.4. See p. 25.

FREE to sufferers from bad circulatory troubles and rheumatism. Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Elasto (Dept. 15E), Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., for free sample of Elasto and a copy of a special free booklet explaining the Elasto Treatment. Send now while you think of it. See Back Cover.

GET THIS FREE BOOKLET! If you're run-down, feeling tired, lack pep and attractiveness, learn how iron, in an assimilable form will restore you to health and bloom. Fill in the coupon on page 25 or write, mentioning *John Bull*, to The Iron Jelloid Co., Ltd. (Dept. J.91), Watford, Herts, for an informative Free Book, "Iron Starvation: The Thief of Health and Strength." Write for this to-day!

EVERY man and woman on active service will welcome a tin of Ovaltine. It is something extra which will keep up their resistance against severe weather conditions. It not only keeps out the cold, but builds up the nerves and maintains a veritable "Maginot Line" against winter chills. Packed in airtight tins, it is easily prepared. If milk is not available, water can be used as Ovaltine itself contains milk, but Ovaltine can also be eaten dry if necessary—an important point for men on active service. Further information appears in the announcement on the Front Cover of this issue.

ARE you a sampler? Do you respond to advertisements which offer samples? You ought to. It is a way of trying out all kinds of things which you might never know about. Make a habit of answering the advertisements and testing the goods.

BUSINESS SERVICES, ETC.

RETAILERS OFFERING SPECIAL A.R.P. LINES

Need not limit trade to Local requirements. In times like these TENS OF THOUSANDS must BUY BY POST. *John Bull's* FAMOUS "SHOP WINDOW" reaches millions of buyers all over the country. ONE ADVERTISER RECENTLY REPORTED THAT FROM A SINGLE ADVERTISEMENT HE HAD RECEIVED OVER 500 ORDERS FOR A 10/- ARTICLE. A mail order department has turned many a local business into a national one. Why not yours? START SMALL, GROW BIG. Apply on business letterhead for particulars and details of free advertisement writing service for shopkeepers and small traders. Address: Manager, Ideas and Sales Development Dept., *John Bull*, Room 23, 57-59, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

MISCELLANEOUS.

PEARL Endowment Policies bought outright; also Refuge and Salvation Army policies purchased.—Pioneer Sales, Winchester.

SKILL PUNCHBOARDS. Pre-War Prices. 56/9 profit on 5/3 board at 2d. per punch. Smpl. 300-hole board, 3/9, and illus cat., BURDON HUNTER, 26, Woodville Road, London, E.11.

1/- (plus 6d. postage) secures the "all-in-one" corselette offered by Ambrose Wilson on page 22. Sizes range from 30 to 46 in. bust. Sent on approval by using the coupon. Order one to-day!

FREE! Get your boy to write or write yourself on his behalf for the free catalogue of Meccano products describing how bridges, towers and cranes can be built with Meccano products. A copy can be obtained post free. —Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Dept. 37, Meccano, Ltd., Binns Road, Liverpool, 13. See page 27.

JAY'S Furnishing Stores offer readers of *John Bull*, a Catalogue crammed full of bargains of their Special Xmas Furnishings, together with full details of their special easy payment terms. A free copy of this excellent Catalogue and full particulars can be obtained by writing, mentioning *John Bull*, to Jay's Furnishing Stores, Ltd., Dept. *John Bull*, 248, Tottenham Court Road, London, W.1.

A BOOKLET of immediate practical importance to all dog-owners, entitled "How to care for your dog in war time," is now available free on application. It contains a wealth of practical hints regarding exercise during black-outs, war ration feeding, blastproof kennels, management of nervous dogs, etc., etc.—Write, mentioning *John Bull*, to Bob Martin, Ltd. (60F), Union Street, Southport, Lancs

"FRENCH As You March."—This is the title of a wonderful English-French Phrase Book, which will help every service man. He doesn't have to speak a word of French, he just has to look up the English phrase and immediately he has the French equivalent put in such a way that he has only to read it out. You will be doing him a good turn if you send him a copy of this book, price 1/-, or 1/2 post free from the publishers, whose address is given on page 30.

"POINT" British Sherry saves you shillings a bottle, because it is British Sherry produced with the finest grape juice, fermented and matured over here instead of the country where the grapes are grown. You can find out how good this is for as little as 10d.—the price of a quarter-flask. See display advertisement on this page.

FREE catalogue of Ciro famous rings, pearls and jewellery. Ciro creations challenge the closest comparison with fine, real jewellery, however costly. These beautiful articles are inexpensive—from a guinea upwards (and on easy terms, if desired)—and if you can detect any difference from more costly rings or jewellery your money will be refunded! Write at once, mentioning *John Bull*, to Ciro, 48, Old Bond Street, London, W.1. for free catalogue of exclusive Ciro rings, ear-rings, brooches, watches, regimental badges and other Ciro gems. Do so at once—Christmas is not so far away. You can make your choice now, from the catalogues!

PARK DRIVE

for pleasure

5 FOR 2¹⁰/₂
10 FOR 5ᴰ
20 FOR 10ᴰ

PLAIN OR CORK TIPPED (MILD)

JOHN BULL

Thursday, for week ending Saturday, Dec. 9, 1939. 93, Long Acre, W.C.2. Telephone: Temple Bar 2468

**"Come the three corners of the world in arms,
And we shall shock them; naught shall make us rue,
If England to itself do rest but true"**

NAZIS' SECRET U-BOAT BASES

AFTER Finland, what next? Stalin, cynical pupil of the bully Hitler, is expected to demand a naval base on the Swedish coast, possibly one in Norway also.

Europe's Foreign Offices do not think his aim is any large-scale imperialism, but genuine desire to "safeguard" the Soviet Union—by blackmail and threats of the mailed fist. In other words, by the methods to which the world is now well accustomed.

Are They Allies?

WATCHING the Soviet infamy in Northern Europe, Italy and Turkey are speeding up arrangements for a Balkan pact to prevent Nazi-Communism spreading southwards.

Fear is that while Russia is busy, Hitler will be given a free hand by Stalin to move towards Yugoslavia and Greece. Rumania and Hungary are alert and ready to fight.

Yet Russia is strengthening her fortifications on the new Polish frontier. Germany is nervously following suit. **Odd behaviour by supposed allies!**

Nazis Use Iceland

EYES next on Iceland! Strong suspicion exists that the Nazis are using its bays as U-boat bases, its desolate shores as aerodromes.

Believed also that *Deutschland* and *Emden* cowered there for weeks.

From the North

SIGNIFICANT that several bombers trying to raid the Shetlands came from the north. **The Iceland coast is 500 miles north-west of the Shetlands, a far safer trip for Nazi aircraft than the rather** longer journey from Germany over our warships in the North Sea.

Day after the *Rawalpindi* was sunk a German steamer slipped out of Iceland's chief port after blowing her syren six times, presumably to signal German warships waiting to escort her valuable cargo of iron ore to Germany.

Admiralty Prepared

OTHER Nazi ships, leaving the port at dead of night, would hardly dare do so without protection of U-Boats or *Deutschland*.

You'll remember pre-war activity by German officers and spies in Iceland, activity that drew pungent comments from Britain and the United States.

Admiralty is keeping watch on those bleak northern waters, has plans to meet any situation.

New Nazi Airports

NOT unexpected is rush building of three Nazi airfields south of the Danish border.

They will be 350 miles from the Lincoln coast, no great saving on distance from seaplane base at Emden and too far for Nazi fighters to accompany bombers. Raids on our ports would be a costly business.

Invasion of Holland would have given Hitler new aerodromes only one hundred miles or so from Britain.

Whitehall Surprised

MORE surprising to Whitehall is haste of seven neutral countries to protest about British two-way blockade. They've made no protest against the Nazis' indiscriminate mine and submarine campaign.

Holland has said nothing about a Dutch officer being shot when two British "peace plan" officials were kidnapped; nothing about the heavy loss of Dutch life in the sinking of the "Simon Bolivar."

Sweden is a courageous exception. She used strong language to Berlin regarding the laying of mines only four miles from her coast.

Hard on Neutrals. But—

OUR blockade is unfortunately crippling neutral States as well as Germany. **Rotterdam has lost 72 per cent. of its trade.**

In the first nine months of this year 10,000,000 tons of German goods were exported through Rotterdam and Amsterdam. Now no more can get through.

It's hard on the neutrals.

But it is better for them to be hard up for a while than share the fate of Austria and Poland!

Our blockade has another immediate consolation. It ends the unfair, subsidised competition of Nazi traders.

Our Stranglehold

TO make blockade effective, our warships stretch across 270 miles between Northern Scotland and Southern Norway, have shut both ends of the English Channel, are sharing with French Navy the closing of the Straits of Gibraltar.

Neutral observers believe our stranglehold is even tighter than in the last war.

Then our guards, warships and armed merchant cruisers, were about thirty miles apart, steamed thirty or forty miles in one direction at 15 knots before reversing, eastwards by night and westwards by day, with ships at either end of the line travelling at right angles to the main fleet, making it almost impossible for any suspect to slip through.

Mastery Admitted

FORCED at last to admit our mastery of the seas, Nazi radio sneerers now quote JOHN BULL to expose the "rottenness of Britain."

It doesn't worry us. We attack bad conditions, not Britain or the British.

If Nazis are too dishonest to allow criticism of Germany's horrors, too hypocritical to quote JOHN BULL's praise of the fine things that are British, well, that's just too bad for Germany.

Another Success

NOT much hope that they will dare to tell their people that Britain is still rich enough to give a better deal to the workless and old age pensioners.

Higher unemployment allowances will be sanctioned before Christmas, old age pensioners will probably have to wait for the New Year.

So another JOHN BULL campaign succeeds.

Health Progress

LATEST medical report shows more births, fewer deaths, lowest infantile mortality rate on record, fewer mothers' deaths.

Fever fatalities last year were only six per million, were 371 per million in our parents' days.

Deaths from tuberculosis were ten thousand fewer than seven years ago, are slumping at a surprising rate.

German Misery

THESE figures talk of ever-quickening social improvement. Figures for Germany shout of fast-worsening misery.

Within six years, diphtheria, dysentery and fatal scarlet fever cases have nearly doubled, infantile paralysis more than quadrupled, more mothers are dying, there's more tuberculosis.

Incredible—yet tragically true.

Mr. Elliot's Trouble

MINISTER OF HEALTH Walter Elliot is busy with another subject of importance to millions. If an employer doesn't stamp his workers' unemployment cards the Ministry of Labour has power to make good the loss.

In the case of National Health and pension stamps, the workers have to make up all the arrears or lose all benefits.

Mr. Elliot recognises the anomaly, wants to remove it. Parliament is so busy that it will probably have to be left till after the war.

All for One?

COMMANDEERED at war's outbreak, hotels are now being "demobilised," but confusion still exists, probably due to absence of co-ordination between the various State departments responsible.

Three of the best hotels in a West Country town have been taken over, the guests evacuated and staffs sacked. Furniture and countless telephones were installed in finely carpeted rooms, making luxury offices for Big Brass Hats.

Only one Civil Servant arrived!

£200
FREE AIR RAID INSURANCE
Underwritten at LLOYD'S
FOR EVERY READER

In addition "John Bull" provides Free comprehensive Household Benefits. If you have not yet registered for this DOUBLE protection do so now on the Forms on page 29. Don't leave it until to-morrow!

Planning for Peace Time

Gort is Hero of France

They've Nothing Else to Do

RETURN of normal coal allowances has left more than a thousand officials with little to do. It hasn't occurred to anyone to sack them.

This probably accounts for preposterous "give us something to think about" forms sent out by fuel overlords, demanding from each householder a description of every room, its size, description and size of all coal or gas fires, electric fittings and so on, ages of children. Many of the demands are repeated on different parts of the form.

Forms are useful for lighting fires.

After the War

THE Land Settlement Association is looking forward to what will happen when the war is over.

Knowing that many men in 1918 shrank from returning to office or factory after years of open-air life, it is already planning to settle ex-soldiers on the land when peace is restored.

Until then its ordinary work of turning unemployed from the Distressed Areas into farmers is being stopped for economy's sake.

They are *Surprised*

SOME of these ex-unemployed miners and engineers, living in model houses, with experts to advise on every aspect of their small holdings, are making as much as £250 profit a year. **One was richer by £426 in the last twelve months.**

Against these successes in a great, splendid experiment are men who find it hard to prosper in farming's hard times.

They find it baffling to get only 6d. a dozen for cabbages, 1s. 4d. for a big box of tomatoes.

But so does the housewife.

Helping Themselves

ALSO puzzled is Mr. M. Carmichael, a joiner who has had to close down his business in Sale, Cheshire.

He shares JOHN BULL's dismay that thousands of small employers cannot get Government orders. So he's started an organisation called the National Associated War Firms, with a guinea-a-year subscription, in an effort to make Minister of Supply Burgin sit up and take notice.

Whether Mr. Burgin is faced with a real uppercut from small employers remains to be seen. But he has lately given orders to quite a number of little workshops.

Here's Some Advice

READERS who have been evacuated, returning home only for an hour or so a week, find they are still called on to pay the full quarter's fixed rate for electricity.

Have the supply disconnected if you go away for a longish time, though you'll have to pay a few shillings for the work of disconnecting.

You mustn't be late!

A USEFUL gift for a friend at home or abroad is offered to JOHN BULL readers on page 33. There you will find two vouchers. One will be accepted as 2s. 9d. cash in part payment for JOHN BULL's superb 5s. 6d. writing set; the other will be accepted as 7s. 6d. cash in part payment for JOHN BULL's magnificent. 12s. 6d. writing set de luxe.

But you must hurry if you want either or both of them. The demand is great.

Lord Gort, new hero of France, is too busy to worry about comfort

For the Maker of Cakes

IF you find cakes made stodgy by wartime flour, which holds more moisture than the flour we received from the drier climates of our Empire, you'll have no more failures if you use slightly less fat and increase the amount of flour in your mixtures by one-eighth.

No Private Trading

AFTER these domestic trifles, turn again to the larger issues of a war-racked world. While we suffer petty inconvenience by war flour and rationing, Germany is so economically shaken that all private trading will shortly be abolished.

Official depots will be opened to supply each town's necessities. Ration cards will be given money value to aid barter-ing.

It's hoped by this subterfuge to delay inflation of the mark and consequent ruin.

Toil—or You Die

NOT only in Poland has slave labour been imposed by the Nazis, but also Czech men between eighteen and twenty-five may now be moved to any district for compulsory toil.

Penalty for refusal is death.

Nazi Irish Film

IRISH terrorist campaign is the subject of a film to be made by UFA, the famous German studio, by order of Dr. Goebbels.

Idea is to create anti-British feeling in neutral countries by depicting "Ireland's struggle for liberty."

A Hero in France

NOW meet the man who has become a hero in France even though he's a Briton.

His room, now one of the most important offices in the world, is ugly and bare. He sits on a kitchen chair, working at a plain table.

Other furniture includes packing-cases, faded deck chairs and easels bearing maps. Someone has scrawled "C.-in-C." in chalk on his door.

You've guessed it! The man is Lord Gort, Commander-in-Chief of the British Army in France, too busy to worry about comfort.

Behind the News . . .

MR. STOKES, Labour employer M.P., says we shan't get economic peace till the Governor of the Bank of England is (metaphorically) hanged from a lamp-post. Sir John Simon refuses to name the men on the Bank's Treasury Committee that adjusts the Bank Rate.

A sequel is coming. A group of influential M.P.s of all Parties is to press for State control of the Bank to facilitate war finance.

*

Mr. Churchill is pleased. He asked for 200 more drifters to clear away Nazi mines, got them immediately with 2,000 volunteers to man them, has been promised more if he wants them. When war began about 100 mine-sweepers were put into service. There were 3,714 in November, 1918.

*

Black-out restrictions on shop signs are to be relaxed by Home Office Order, following our exposure of excess zeal of chief constables in some districts.

*

Hungary, again threatened by Germany, is gaining protection by linking itself more closely to Italy. It's even suggested that Hungarian crown might be offered to the King of Italy.

*

Soon to visit London: Archduke Otto of Austria. Intention: support for restoring Austrian monarchy. Chances: none. Our Government will give him no promises, believing that a Republican Government in Vienna would be more in our interests.

Hopeful Hermann:—"But everyone is saying that this war will be won at sea, Adolf."

A. G. GARDINER calls for a new Government Department with the slogan, "Business as Usual!"

FORGOTTEN MEN on the HOME FRONT

No fewer than 5,000,000 men like this are now engaged in Britain's armaments programme

IN these anxious days there is no wish in any quarter to embarrass the Government.

Never was the solidarity of the country in the presence of a great emergency so complete as it is to-day.

Never was the temper of Parliament so entirely free from nagging criticism or the scoring of Party points.

In this respect the Labour Opposition has set an example of restraint and responsibility which has won the gratitude of the Government and the admiration of the country.

This fact lends weight to the deep concern it has voiced in Parliament on the disquieting position on the Home Front.

Take a few facts as illustrating that position.

Because of the war something like half a million young men have been withdrawn from industry to some form of war service.

Of the total number of people, 12,810,000, employed in all callings, no fewer that 5,000,000 are engaged on the armament programme.

In other words, millions of men and women have been withdrawn from normal occupations to war work.

It might be assumed that with this vast switch over, all surplus labour would be absorbed and the country would be faced with a labour shortage. Instead, the latest figures of unemployment still stand at 1,430,000. Not only has there not been a decline in unemployment since the war began: there has been an increase.

BETWEEN September 12 and October 16 the figure rose by nearly a hundred thousand, and the total increase since August is roughly 200,000.

There are two significant features in the figures: (1) London is the area that has been most stricken.

In one month unemployment in the metropolis has risen by 85,402. (2) Women have borne the brunt of the blow.

In September, unemployment among women throughout the country increased by the huge total of 175,000.

Other revealing facts are these:

Twenty-eight thousand of the newly registered unemployed are uninsured people, registering mainly for war work.

The principal increases in unemployment are in the building trades, public works, hotels, distributive trades, printing, docks and harbours and agriculture.

What is the conclusion that emerges from the facts?

Mr. Ernest Brown, the Minister for Labour, attributes the increase in unemployment to seasonal causes.

That is not borne out by an examination of the figures.

Still less does it explain why, with the withdrawal of millions of workers to war work, the surplus of unemployed labour stands in the neighbourhood of a million and a half.

The real fact is that we were caught totally unprepared for the vast dislocation of the national life which the impact of war involved.

We ought not to have been. For three years the shadow of war had been approaching.

For a year, ever since Munich, it had darkened the sky with daily growing menace.

Then we prepared in earnest for the war. But we did not prepare for the consequences of the war at home.

When the blow fell the whole structure of our normal economic life was shattered.

It was every man for himself and the devil take the hindmost.

Every industry not directly engaged in war work was knocked sideways and thousands of people found themselves workless between night and morning.

The Ministry of Labour, while appealing to employers not to sack men, itself dismissed hundreds of men, and its example was followed by other public departments.

The flight from London left multitudes of servants unemployed and spread panic among the distributing houses, which added their stream to the hosts of the unemployed.

EVERY demand for the war, wise or unwise, meant wreckage somewhere.

It is estimated that the commandeering of hotels here, there and everywhere by Government Departments has thrown 20,000 people out of work and prosperous businesses on to the dustheap.

Petrol restrictions have claimed hosts of victims among those in private service and in the ranks of the 10,000 taxi drivers of London alone.

The Government grip on aluminium resulted in one firm which supplied foil for food wrappings dismissing 200 employees.

Businesses of all sorts have been paralysed by the congestion of the railways and by the deplorable delays in issuing export licences. Six hundred and fifty employees of a stationery manufacturing firm were sent home because the railways were unable to deliver the firm's goods to customers.

That case could be paralleled by hundreds.

And hardly a day passes that I do not read lamentations of business men about the ruinous delays in getting licences for the delivery of goods to foreign countries, especially Scandinavia.

Not the least pitiful is the plight of the black-coated army who fell in swathes before the blast, people with little or no reserves, living in the modest homes they thought were secure, and who are now left with the instalments on house, wireless, piano, etc., falling due, and the tradesmen's bills to be met, waiting for some turn in the tide of things that will float them again from the shoals of destitution.

Add to all these the most vulnerable class of all, those who depend on the luxury side of life, musicians, entertainers, and so on, and we have a mass of displaced labour and human misfortune that is painful to contemplate.

In time no doubt much of this labour will be absorbed by the needs of the war.

But for tens of thousands this winter will be the darkest and most anxious time in their experience.

It is true that no foresight could have prevented the shock of the war dislocating the life of the nation.

BUT THE CATASTROPHE SHOULD HAVE BEEN FORESEEN, AND A POLICY OF ADJUSTMENT TO IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN IN READINESS TO BREAK THE BLOW AND "TEMPER THE WIND TO THE SHORN LAMB."

THE case against the Government is that they entirely overlooked the repercussions of the outbreak of war upon the Home Front.

In this respect the experience of the nation has been immeasurably more disastrous than that of 1914.

By the light of to-day the slogan of that time, "Business as usual," is seen to have had much more wisdom in it than was commonly supposed.

It checked the stampede and gave industry time in which to look round and adjust itself to war conditions.

Now that the war has developed in so strangely different a manner from what was anticipated, no time should be lost in consolidating the Home Front and undoing the mischiefs that have been done.

A department of the Government should be set up without delay to shape a policy of internal reconstruction.

It should abolish many of the extravagances that were plunged into under the first stress of the war, and devise wherever possible a speedy return to normal conditions of trade and industry.

IT should deal with the problem of the absorption of the unemployed, and especially with that most urgent matter of the unemployed boys and girls under seventeen who are now running to waste, mostly neither at work nor at school. In a word, it should frame a domestic policy for the duration of the war.

And not for the period of the war only. It should look ahead to the tremendous problems that will arise when the war is over and the task of building a new structure on the ruins of the old has to be taken in hand.

We must not be caught unprepared for the peace!

When he went to the mausoleum of the House of Lords as Lord Mottistone, Jack Seely was mourned by every Member of the House of Commons. Now he wants your savings to help in paying for the war.

Soldier, lifeboatman, politician, he has lived a man's life to the fullest. He will never be bored

He's Still Jack Seely

—Says Hannen Swaffer

WHEN I look out of my window overlooking Trafalgar Square, I see, at the base of the Nelson column, the big-type words: "Save Your Way to Victory."

Britain must have, in the field, on the sea and in the air, modern mechanised appliances of every kind. But behind all those mighty engines of destruction it must also have a resolute people, whose work must provide the machinery of war and whose money must pay for it.

Otherwise we face enslavement.

So it is well that we have, as Chairman of the National Savings Committee, Jack Seely.

It is no good calling him Lord Mottistone, for no one would know who that was. He might be remembered as General Sir John Seely, but as Lord Mottistone he is merely one of those unknown peers.

"Jack Seely," indeed, sums up the good-natured, kindly man who, handsome and smiling, is the hero of a hundred stories.

He was one of the most popular members of the House of Commons, friendly with all Parties.

He was, indeed, one of the best mixers the House ever knew, for to him there was no such thing as class or political narrowness.

He went to the mausoleum of the House of Lords mourned by every member of the House of Commons.

Early in the last war he found adventure in Belgium, and then, right to the end, he went through it on his faithful charger, Warrior, much of the time within rifle-shot of the enemy.

When, after it was over, Foch gave him a silver cigarette case, recording, in an inscription, his "heroism in the Great War"—well, Foch wasn't given to idle compliments.

AS for his beloved charger, when, a year ago last May, Jack Seely went for a ride on Warrior over the Isle of Wight downs, he was seventy and his horse thirty. So the two of them made one centenarian.

Who can forget Jack Seely's lifeboat work? He was a member of the crew for forty years and coxswain for three years. He went out in all weathers.

At sixty-eight he spent five hours in the Channel, in freezing weather, looking for a ship which, unfortunately, had disappeared.

Jack Seely's views are as bluff and hale and hearty as he is himself. For instance, he may hold an official position—but he does not agree with all this air-shelter stuff.

Indeed, only the other day, he told how he had asked an eminent doctor what the chances were for a man, his wife and three children, who, to find refuge from aeroplanes, sat in a trench full of water in the winter time.

Commenting on the doctor's reply that probably one person in three would die of pneumonia, Jack said, "How foolish to ask people to exchange a 30,000 to 1 chance in their own homes for only a 3 to 1 chance in a muddy trench!"

Jack Seely's orthodox views on economics had a shock in 1937 when, after visiting South Wales and Durham, he returned exploding with anger.

"Here are folk who can neither save nor spend," he shouted. "It is a scandal which some countries would not allow. Yet it is a simple, manageable problem."

During the crisis that led up to the war, he travelled across Europe and met many who asked him whether the people of Britain were keeping steady.

"Steady?" he replied. "Why, during the worst week of all, our 8,000,000 holders of savings certificates cashed only 29,000 certificates, a normal figure. Fewer than one-half of 1 per cent. cashed one certificate. . . . The British people are always steady."

Then, boasting of our stalwartness, he told how, in the financial year of 1938, which included some very jumpy months, the savings of Britain's wage-earners went up by £55,000,000, reaching a total of £1,433,629,000.

"When you tell people abroad that the savings of small British investors are £3,500,000,000," he said, "they won't believe you."

BECAUSE, as a youth, he had sailed before the mast, Jack, living in the quietness of the Isle of Wight, joined the lifeboat crew, not only to save people from death, but to save himself from becoming bored.

When he first entered the House of Lords, he showed how out-of-place he was by clearing his throat to start "My Lords" and, for some unaccountable reason, saying "My dears" instead. I suppose he thought he was talking to his family. . . .

The House rocked, and, when Jack blushed crimson, it went on rocking. In fact, it laughed so much that the next speaker, the Marquis of Zetland, referred to the Ministry of Munitions as the "Ministry of Musicians."

Jack's kindliness of manner survived the fact that, during the thick of the Irish troubles, he was Secretary of State for War.

He can look back on one extraordinary incident which shows how war has changed. For he was with Queen Victoria at Osborne House when the first casualty list of the Boer War arrived.

It announced the death in action of twenty-three men! The Queen, bursting into tears, sent a personal telegram to every family.

Jack Seely lived to fight in a war in which, in a week, we lost more men than during the whole of the Boer War.

Don't be disappointed

READERS can avoid the disappointment of finding the newsagents "out" of JOHN BULL *only by placing regular orders.*

They write to tell us that their Thursday evenings have been ruined because there was not a JOHN BULL *to be had "for love or money." We can advise them only to order a copy in advance.*

Difficulties of distribution beyond our control make it impossible for us to do any more.

So no more such miserable nights!

Instead, enjoy your JOHN BULL *as usual, with the added feeling of comfort and security that is given by our Free Air Raid Insurance. It is yours for the asking, when you have ordered your* JOHN BULL *in advance.*

They Shall Not Perish

IT sometimes puzzles me why we, as a race, have ever achieved greatness.

The protective girdle of the sea for centuries kept our shores free from strife and the constant wars which made the continent of Europe a battleground of bellicose kings and ambitious States.

We should have grown up soft and placid, easy prey for the envious races of the Old World. Instead, we have grown into a mighty people, steeled in endurance, clad in the mantle of courage, and facing trial after trial with steadfast and victorious purpose.

We have beaten off invasion and have absorbed and used to our own ends those who conquered us. And somewhere, some time, was born the British Tradition.

A loosely used word, tradition. We speak of traditional airs, of traditional customs. But tradition is not one of these things. It strikes deeper than music.

It is the very fibre of racial strength; it is embedded in the heart of the nation.

It has come to us through the years. It has about it the glory of great names. Yet it is more than the symbol of deeds of individuals.

WHO can tell when tradition was born? Not until the days of Elizabeth was England reckoned a great nation. Yet the seeds of traditional courage on the battlefield were laid long before Bess rallied her forces to meet the threat of Spanish invasion.

At Agincourt and Crecy the spirit of the English soldiers set up a tradition which in years to follow enabled Marlborough and Wellington to sweep in triumph over Continental battlefields.

Sir Francis Drake and his men sowed the seeds of maritime greatness when they scattered the Spanish Armada. Blake and Nelson followed proudly.

Yet somehow I feel that the real greatness of Britain is not wholly due to the great fighters who have led her armies and commanded her fleets.

Argue It Out! — by Pallas

In our heritage is the urge to wander, to seek fresh lands, to develop the little-known parts of the earth. As navigators, as settlers, as colonists, Britons have left home and family to plant, ever more remote from the land of their birth, the Flag of Empire.

But even their restless search for adventure does not explain fully this tradition which impels rich and poor, worker and drone, to display in face of odds that quiet courage which has so enriched our history.

The last gallant fight of the *Rawalpindi* against the heavy guns of the Nazi *Deutschland* upholds in the best manner the tradition of the Royal Navy. They fought a hopeless battle against terrific odds, in the knowledge that death was their lot.

The tradition of the sea is a living force in many British families. For generations those families have lived within sound of the sea, have wooed it, loved it and died in its embrace.

Deeper than conquest, deeper than Empire expansion, deeper than fighting, goes the true tradition of Britain. You will find its outward expression in beautiful ships which sail the seas of the world. Industry has its pride in tradition, too.

ON Clydeside, on the banks of the Tyne, the Mersey, live families whose lives for many years have been linked with the ships that rise heavenwards in our shipyards. Fathers hand to sons the jobs of platers, riveters, caulkers.

In the coalfields, generation after generation of boys follow their fathers and their fathers' fathers into the pits. They learn there the traditions which have made the miner a man of deep courage, a man who has written large on the scroll of heroism.

Tradition has given us a sense of fair-play. It has made our Justice a symbol of democratic rights, and it has instilled in us sympathy for the under-dog and a love of animals.

And as long as that tradition lives, keeping alive in our hearts that steadfast determination to uphold the right and to fight with tooth and claw the evils of dominance and aggression, Britain and its Commonwealth of Nations shall not perish from the earth.

OPEN LETTERS

- Sir John Hits Trouble
- The Misguided Colonel
- Blind Cripple's Plight
- Gate-Crashing Students

Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN SIMON, M.P.,

DEAR SIR JOHN,—I warn you that many Government supporters are after your blood. They want to offer you as a human sacrifice to your fellow Minister, Oliver Stanley, with whom you are still at loggerheads.

They argue that if the public takes your advice and cuts down spending our trade will fall to bits and revenue melt like snow in sunshine.

"Spend all you can!" they cry with Mr. Stanley.

For once I am on your side. You urge us to avoid unnecessary spending, which means cutting down luxuries to pay for the war.

We must not stint ourselves of necessities, for they provide useful employment.

If we have any money to spare, it must be lent to the nation rather than frittered away on private extravagances that bring high profits to a tiny minority.

The general public realises this. Hence the rush of humble citizens to buy Savings Certificates and Defence Bonds!

It is the wealthy who must economise on their costly meals, wines and pleasures, if you are to get the £3,000,000 a day which the war is costing Britain, avoid inflation, and reach full war production.

You can do your bit by ensuring that prices are kept down to encourage both worth-while spending and saving.—JOHN BULL.

The HOUSING COMMITTEE,
Slough Borough Council

GENTLEMEN,—Although your motives may be excellent, you will arouse bitterness by refusing council houses to soldiers' wives.

Perhaps you feel that private landlords who have levied exorbitant rents for years should now be hit by the special protection given to Servicemen's families. These families will be expected to pay rent arrears at the end of the war.

To deny cheap houses to them is a disgrace that no argument can justify. Think it over.—JOHN BULL.

Lt.-Col. A. A. SOAMES,
Essex County Council

SIR,—Nazi jibes are less infuriating than your outburst. So I judge by the hundreds of protests sent to me about your plea that soldiers should not be given allowances by peace time employers.

"Do not hurl money at them and make them so rich that they will lie in their beds and do nothing," said you.

Thus insulting the grit of our troops, the struggles of their dependants, and the generosity of some employers, you do not improve matters by asking our pity because you are too old to fight and must "stop at home and be miserable."

There's plenty to be done, even at home, towards winning the war.—JOHN BULL.

WAR MINISTER: See that Militia lads who are coming on leave receive their full pay. Reservists called up in August are still awaiting theirs.—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. Sir JOHN ANDERSON, M.P.,
Minister for Home Security

DEAR SIR.—So often have I urged you to speed up the issue of babies' gas masks that I shall soon resemble a gramophone record on which the needle has jammed.

You will weary of my reminders before I shall. I promise you no rest until your sluggard Department fulfils its urgent duty to the nation.

Mothers still tramp from depôt to depôt, week after week, in vain efforts to gain security for their infants.

Do you pretend they have no cause for anger and dismay?—JOHN BULL.

Rev. T. L. ROGERS,
Bampton, Devon

REVEREND SIR,—Pin-money wives will hate you, most people applaud you, for criticising a local food controller and fuel overseer who have appointed their wives to paid jobs on their staff.

I can give you similar examples in A.R.P. In one Government office thirteen women relatives of high officials have found war jobs. Yet an army of bread-winning clerks and typists are vainly looking for work!

Who dares talk of "equality of sacrifice" while such sickening disparities are allowed?—JOHN BULL.

Mr. J. MIDDLETON MURRY,
Pacifist Author

SIR,—Your praise of Hitler is as offensive as your sneers at Churchill.

Besides, you make a mistake when you boast that "Hitler knows this is a lousy world; he will de-louse it and damn the consequences."

Certainly the world is going to be made less verminous, but by the cleaning up of Hitler and his filthy bullies.—JOHN BULL.

MERCHANT NAVY DEFENCE: Why debar firemen on merchant ships from the gunnery course for merchant seamen? Snobbery or stupidity?—JOHN BULL.

MACCLESFIELD CORPORATION,

GENTLEMEN,—Alfred Broomhead is still a martyr.

Fourteen months have passed since I horrified your townsfolk by telling how, when employed to repair a council house, he received an electric shock that melted a brass tap into his hand, inflicted a terrible wound in his neck, and burned the nerve tissues round his heart, leaving him a hopeless and helpless invalid.

When his legal action against you failed on technical grounds, you seized his home to pay your costs, forcing his family into destitution.

Your attitude may be above legal reproach, but I know your citizens would prefer you to be human enough to ease his shattered life by making him an *ex gratia* grant.—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. Sir KINGSLEY WOOD, M.P.,
Secretary for Air

DEAR SIR,—A reserve Air officer has drawn £10 a fortnight for reporting every other morning since war was declared, although still working at his normal job.

Even twenty-year-olds are sent home after a little training and draw pay and allowances.

Yet E Class reservists, many of them aged fifty or more, are called up to do very heavy work for which they are quite unfitted.

What excuse can you offer for this contemptible chaos?—JOHN BULL.

Captain MEDLICOTT,
M.P. for E. Norfolk

DEAR CAPTAIN,—Yes, it's a lucky criminal who is allowed to draw up his own record.

We must, as you suggest, look back not merely to the Treaty of Versailles but to the invasion of Belgium in 1914 in our efforts to free humanity from the constant outbreaks of force.

Nobody should doubt your claim that the tragic sacrifices of 1914-18 were not in vain, for without them Europe would be in the chains of German militarism.

This time we must see that not only are we freed from the threat of tyranny but that the Peace will be both just and permanent.—JOHN BULL.

Rt. Hon. WALTER ELLIOT, M.P.,
Minister of Health

DEAR SIR,—**Mrs. Orchard, Kinmel Bay, is blind and crippled. She could be made to walk again, but if she went into hospital her husband would have his "dole" reduced and yet have to pay part of the medical fees.**

So, unless husband and child are to starve themselves, she must continue to live in pain.

You have drastically changed the hospital system to meet war demands. Now get busy on a State medical service that would assure the finest skill to even the poorest of our people.—JOHN BULL.

Col. F. C. G. TWINN,
Director of Postal Services

SIR,—Once again University students and youths still at school are being recruited as temporary Post Office sorters for the Christmas rush.

So damnable an injustice to the workless and their families should receive Parliament's immediate attention.—JOHN BULL.

HATE ALWAYS FAILS

By "J. M."

HATE always fails in the end because, both in nations and men, there's the deep fundamental hope that things will come right again. That out of the throes of war a better world will arise; and so it will, because Decency has got all Life's Replies.

Hate can only destroy, it doesn't build or create, and Civilisation considers it hopeless and out of date. For it saps away all desire to adjust things to a reasoned end—it's a frenzied, bitter, poisonous thing, which no excuse can defend.

Hate always fails in the end, as those who hate must fail, because the Faith which all men have must in the end prevail, and simple common things, which belong to our common life, will come out on top and put an end to hate-engineered strife.

For it is the Common Life that Men in the mass must live, the Life in which tolerance must precede the need which we have to forgive; and long after the frantic shout of a fierce and frenzied few, the Common Man will come back from war, his Common Task to do.

GRIN and BEAR it!

by OLIVER PLUSH

IT is graciously announced from the Home Office that carol singing does not come under the Control of Noise Order:—

God rest you merry gentlemen,
Let nothing you dismay!
Upon the high C's once again
You'll hold unchallenged sway!
Although our busy bureaucrats
Have blacked out many pleasures,
We're still allowed to keep our waits
In spite of all their measures!

Test Your Ignorance

In response to no requests from anybody, but determined to be in the prevailing fashion, we offer herewith a General Knowledge Test. The correct answers will probably be found at the foot of this page, assuming we have a few spare minutes in which to write them out between now and closing time.

1. Who planned the assassination of Julius Cæsar?
2. "Gestapo" is an abbreviation of "Geheime Staatspolizei"—how does one pronounce this?
3. Who was Ananias?
4. What does the swastika stand for?
5. Who killed Cock Robin?
6. What is the capital of Germany?

Study these questions carefully, write your answers on the back of a laundry bill or pawn ticket, then forward it, together with a postal note for 8s. 4d. or any larger amount, to Oliver Plush, care the Fighting Cock (Saloon Bar), S.W.13.

Watch on the Rhino

You see in me a worried man,
I want to do the best I can
For England, home and beauty;
But those whose wisdom is my guide
Are quite unable to decide
Just wherein lies my duty.

One expert tells me trade will crash
If I don't circulate my cash,
So urges me to spend it;
Another says the proper plan
Should be to save all that I can
And to the nation lend it.

The arguments of both seem right,
They're dinned into me day and night
With harassing monotony;
Won't someone my dilemma end;
Should I my rhino spend or lend
If some day I have got any?

Seat of War

Describing the comforts of the latest type of armoured car, a soldier told an interviewer "We can literally fight the war from armchairs."

Who says this isn't a democratic war, when privates in the Tank Corps enjoy the same privilege as retired colonels in Pall Mall?

Sez 'Enery

"Red 'ot abaht young Alf, ain't it?" remarked 'Enery.

"Why, what about him?"

"Well, 'e wos quite a sensible lad w'en 'e joined up. It wasn't till they made 'im a Corporal that 'is 'ead got too big for 'is boots, if you know wot I mean?"

"I can guess."

"Took to sittin' in 'is billet broodin' an' sayin' 'e wosn't satisfied wiv th' way th' war wos bein' run."

"Did he mention it to the sergeant?"

"Dunno; but larst week 'e read abaht 'Itler sendin' for 'is generals an' jawin' them for an 'our an' a 'arf an' layin' down th' principles for th' fucher conduk of th' war. That fair tore it!"

"How?"

"Well Alf sez now as 'ow 'e's sendin' for Gort an' Ironside an' all them Army 'eads an' means to tick 'em off good an' proper!"

"Let's hope he has a fine day for it!"

"I grant you it sounds huppish; but Alf's a Corporal an' I suppose 'e knows as much abaht it as herr-Corporal Schicklegruber."

"P'raps."

"So if you read in th' pipers that we've begun a blinkin' blitzkreig you'll know as 'ow young Alf's patience is hexhausted."

Girls will be Boys

Declaring that too many women and girls have adopted trousers and become slipshod in their dress, a speaker at a clothing trade meeting issued the warning: "Soldiers will soon be home on leave. They will want to see smart women. Women will want to pull up their socks."

Come, come, my girl, pull up your socks
And keep your powder dry.
And, if your hair's a neutral tint,
Prepare to do and dye.

None but the brave deserve the fair,
None but the fair the brave;
So buy a perm. and show the world
Britannia rules the wave!

Your boy friend, home on leave, at slacks
Will surely look askance,
Thinking the girl for whom he yearned
Just waited till his back was turned
To go and pinch his pants!

No Fear!

Chess is spreading. You must have heard. Owing to nothing to do at nights. Owing to this peace to end war.

Brown and Jones started their first game going to-night. Robinson asked me if I'd like a wallop.

No, thank you. I told him straight.

I don't want to miss the armistice celebrations.

Ali Baba . . .

There's going to be no Hitler in our local pantomime this Christmas.

Fed up with him?

No.

Thirty-nine short.

All Ersatz

The Germans have now found out how to make beefsteak of brown paper. If they could get some brown paper. . . .

There is no confirmation of the above report, which comes from Lapland.

All the Answers

(See col. 2) (1) The British Secret Service. (2) One doesn't. (3) World's champion liar for nearly 2,000 years until he forfeited the title at Munich, September, 1938. (4) For whatever its dupes will fall for. (5) Lord Churchill. (6) In real money, about 2½d.

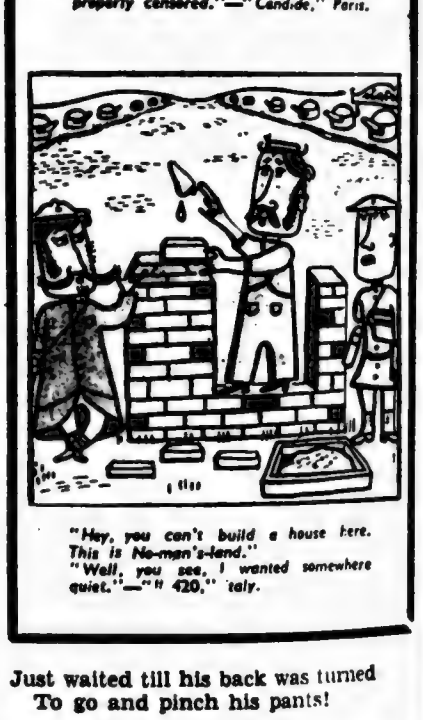
By BRUCE BAIRNSFATHER

"Stand by to salute, Dad. 'Ere comes the Colonel and the Adjutant."

Through Other Eyes . . .

"I think we've taken the wrong turning."—"Marianne," Paris.

"There you are, sailor. Now you've been properly censored."—"Candide," Paris.



"Hey, you can't build a house here. This is No-man's-land."
"Well, you see, I wanted somewhere quiet."—"Il 420," Italy.

Priceless to you, he means nearly as much to the State!

How much is YOUR CHILD worth?

IN terms of parental devotion, your child may be priceless. Considered as a potential tax-paying future citizen, he may also be priceless to the State.

If he is an average elementary school child, a wad of the nation's money will have been spent on him by the time he is fourteen and ready to start paying it back as an income-earner.

Yet to ask how much a child is worth is a pertinent question at a time when, if you live in a big town, the State is protecting your child from air raid injury by evacuating him to a safety area.

It must reckon not only in humanitarian terms, but also in the colder logic of £ s. d. It spends your money, and must guard it, when it is invested in that chubby-faced little human being on the threshold of becoming a money-producing citizen.

★

Humanitarian feelings apart, it is doing nothing particularly philanthropic in sending him into the country as an evacuee and paying his landlady 10s. 6d. a week if there is only one of him in the billet, or 8s. 6d. a head if there are two or more of him under the same roof.

If he is not a fortunate little evacuee, it is doing still less in allowing only 3s. a week for his keep if his father is unemployed, or from 3s. to 5s. a week if his father is serving with the Colours.

While not attempting to whitewash these anomalous facts, there is another side of the story of him as a State investment.

From among the 5,000,000 elementary schoolchildren in England and Wales, the average number attending school was 4,526,701 in 1937-38, the last year for which figures are available.

Their education cost £71,593,348, or £15 16s. 4d. a child over all areas. If your child lived in London he cost £24 9s. 4d. In the counties, excluding London, the boroughs and urban districts, only £14 10s.

If he lived in the borough of Falmouth, he received the cheapest education in the country, only £9 6s. 3d. a head for the year.

Of the average of £15 16s. 4d. for all areas, £9 14s. 6d. went in teachers' salaries. Special services like doctoring and dental care, physical training, play centres and provision of meals cost £1 5s. 7d.

The year's average of £15 16s. 4d reached a high water mark.

Over the nine years since your boy of fourteen started school at the compulsory age of five, the figure would be less. It would be fair to estimate the average over those years at £13 10s. Multiply that by nine and you have £121 10s.

So at fourteen your boy is, educationally speaking, worth that in hard cash to the nation.

From the day your boy was born you will have been allowed relief from income tax for him to the extent of about £50 a year.

On that £50 you saved, and the State lost, £5. Fourteen times £5 is £70.

If you add, to the £121 10s. education outlay, the lost tax cost of £70, you get £191 10s. as the cash value of your boy.

Before he went to school at the age of five, he probably enjoyed the benefit of other services whose exact cash value is more difficult to compute.

Maternity and Child Welfare services last year cost the local authorities £3,730,555. Children put in 9,874,558 attendances at infant welfare centres, and mothers 1,510,445 at ante-natal clinics.

Assuming that each mother or child put in three attendances, the cost of guarding your infant's early life was about £1 a year.

★

Then there are other factors.

Last year the Government paid £14,986,124 in subsidies on cheaply-rented Council houses, and the local councils contributed £40,000,000. One and a half million of such houses have been built since the last war.

Finally, there is that little matter of 3s. a week paid for your child if his father is unemployed, though no one will want to make much of a song about that!

On the whole, it is safe to estimate that by the time your average boy reaches the age of fourteen the nation (quite apart from your own still more substantial contribution in money and affection) has invested in him anything from £250 to £350 in the hope of getting more than its money back from him as a future productive, tax-paying citizen.

★

Even if he turns out an average wage-earner, he will obviously well repay even that £250. If he is exceptionally bright and becomes another Nuffield, he might repay anything up to £100,000,000 for his £250.

It is a fascinating State gamble, this cost and repayment per child.

And it has been well worth the nation's while to add a little more to its bill by spending £350,000 a week in evacuating 758,055 schoolchildren, and 445,026 mothers and their infants under five, to the countryside.

Selfless parental devotion demands that they should stay there. So does the colder common-sense of national £ s. d.

The Rev. Pat McCormick

famed radio pastor, continues his "John Bull" fireside chats by consoling those with "war time conscience"

TEN POINTS *for* Christians

REALISING that it is difficult to reconcile Christianity with war many persons are now asking me what is the duty of a Christian in these perplexing days.

Some Christians are troubled: others are out-and-out pacifists, conscientiously believing that no Christian may have anything to do with war.

To my way of thinking they join the conscientious objectors in giving up their citizenship through trying to stand outside the State and what the State expects.

What I now have to say is not for them, but for those perplexed Christians who believe with me that war is an un-Christian way of settling international disputes, but that as citizens as well as Christians they have a duty to the State and must do their bit for the State, through which, as citizens, they get so many benefits. This is what I think a Christian should do:

1. The chief cause of our being at war is to stop a nation thinking it can walk into other States and impose its will on them by force, regardless of justice, fair dealing or the will of the people. We did our best to stop this by peaceful means, but Nazis seem only to understand force. They have to be stopped by force.

2. The Christian will pray for peace, a new kind of peace, in which nations will be ready to share with other nations and try to help them. All nations, great and small, will then feel they are getting a square deal, and exist in harmony.

3. The Christian will help his country in every way possible, not only because as a citizen he owes a duty to the State, but also because he wants every nation to have a square deal. He knows this is impossible when one nation believes in aggression and oppression and refuses fair dealing.

4. The Christian will keep from hatred and malice against his enemies even under great provocation. He will pray that they may have a change of heart.

5. The Christian will believe that war may mean the giving of life. He knows that death is not the end, but the beginning of a new and fuller life.

The Christian will pray for peace, a new kind of peace in which all nations will live in harmony

6. The Christian will accept the discipline imposed by the State with cheerfulness, and discipline himself so that he can help the State to bring this war to an end.

7. The Christian will join fellow-Christians in worship so that he will have strength to maintain his ideals and his spiritual life when the force of materialism looms so large. He will join them in praying that God's will may be done and that He may bring good out of evil.

8. The Christian will pray above all for the coming of a society founded on the Christian principle of love, in which God will be the acknowledged Father of all men, and men of all nations will look on one another as brothers. The world may thus become a decent place for all to live, and there may be true peace.

9. The Christian will work for that society, because he believes that Christ's way is the only way by which fair dealing, justice, co-operation and lasting happiness can come to the world.

10. The Christian will do everything to help others, especially those distressed and worried and finding life difficult. He will live his ordinary life with courage, cheerfulness and a quiet mind, which are such a tremendous help to people in these days.

* * *

Christianity has something to give the world that no other creed can give.

It is founded on Love, not force. It upholds the liberty of the individual.

For many it will be a new type of Christianity. Not saving your soul, or giving a comfortable feeling inside, but a glorious adventure: a fight in fellowship with others where you forget yourself in the grandeur of the cause, the conquest of selfishness, hatred, oppression and injustice and all systems founded on these things.

It is for such a Kingdom of God that all Christians should work, attracting men of good will to a new way of thinking.

Here Are the Answers

We're on Top in the Air!

LATEST REPORTS ARE THAT HITLER INTENDS TO POSTPONE HIS GREAT LAND ATTACK ON THE WESTERN FRONT TILL MAY 1, AND, TO AID IT, IS NOW BUILDING UP A GREATLY AUGMENTED AIR FORCE. WHAT WILL BE OUR ABILITY TO MEET THIS AIR DRIVE?

We need have no fear. Strategists assert that the side which wins and maintains air supremacy will also win the land battle. The Allied Air Forces are now as powerful as Germany's, and our monthly production of new planes is far in excess of Germany's, apart from those which France is producing and buying.

Our fighters now in service are vastly superior to Germany's, and even if they produce better models in the meantime, we already have two models in large-scale production which are even better than the Hurricanes and Spitfires, which are shooting down the Messerschmitts with such confidence.

May 1 will see us easily superior to Germany in the air.

And with regard to land forces, there will be an extra 1,000,000 British troops then ready to meet the Nazis. . . .

Dig—and help the British merchant service

?

IF ALL THE GARDENERS IN THE COUNTRY SUPPORT THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE'S GROW-MORE-FOOD CAMPAIGN, WHAT IS THE EXTENT OF THE HELP WHICH COULD BE GIVEN TO THE NATION'S FOOD SUPPLIES?

There are 3,500,000 private gardens in Britain and 1,500,000 allotments. It has been estimated that three homes can be supplied from a fully worked average allotment.

Ministry experts say that, with the gardens, some 6,000,000 families can be kept stocked with home-grown food. Or rather more than half the national total of families. Market-growers can take care of most of the rest.

Thus a big burden is lifted from merchant shipping which normally has to bring 100,000 tons of food a day to this country.

The public benefits because it is much cheaper to grow food than to buy it.

And the nation benefits because millions of pounds in cash stays at home instead of being sent out of the country in payment to foreign suppliers.

?

HOW HAS THE GOVERNMENT TACKLED THE "ENEMY ALIEN" PROBLEM?

There are 72,000 Germans and Austrians in this country. So far 40,000 have been dealt with by the 107 tribunals set up to deal with them.

Only 400, or one in a hundred, have been sent to internment camps. About 4,000 have been placed under police supervision and may not move more than five miles from their address without notice.

The rest are exempted as "genuine refugees." Of these, 1,500 have been "specially recommended" for industrial employment. Eight hundred have been enrolled in the Army Pioneer Corps.

?

AFTER OIL, WHAT IS GERMANY'S GREATEST NEED IN RAW MATERIAL?

Strangely enough, it is WOOD. Wood is essential to the Nazi war economy. It is used for scores of *ersatz* products like clothes and sugar, and from it they obtain alcohol and explosives.

And Germany's timber wealth is vanishing at an alarming rate. . . .

Annual growth is estimated at 37,000,000 cubic metres. But during 1935-38 timber cut down averaged yearly 54,000,000 cubic metres. In 1938, consumption rose to 23,000,000 cubic metres above natural growth.

Her remaining forests are military objectives. They are easy targets for incendiary bombs. Such methods are justifiable, not only as a blow against Nazi war economy, but as an attempt to destroy the dozens of warplane factories which are known to be hidden within Germany's big wooded areas.

?

WHY HAVE THE SHETLANDS BEEN "RAIDED" SO OFTEN?

They have not been raids in the true sense. They were reconnaissance patrols over the North Sea, and the Shetlands happens to be at the end of the beat and a safer turning-point than the Orkneys.

The purpose was to observe any British naval activity northward to Iceland and the Arctic, where Nazi U-boats and sea raiders are based. Also to spot large convoys coming down from the Atlantic.

A big bomb was carried by each machine in case it was lucky enough to get a shot at some naval vessel.

?

HOW CAN WEATHER-FORECASTING BE A MILITARY WEAPON?

By a ten-year-old arrangement with the U.S., Britain takes care of all weather forecasting west of the 60th parallel, or west of a line drawn through Nova Scotia and the West Indies.

Thus we have prior knowledge for most of the year of what the weather is going to be like in Western Europe. We get the weather first.

And thus we can pick the best times for air, sea or land operations. Germany cannot. Hence the Nazis have made useless raids because their machines have run into fog and cloud. Big troop movements have been impeded because of bad weather which has suddenly burst upon them.

And if ever our long-range guns come into action our fire will be more accurate than the enemy's, because we have the advantage of knowing wind and barometric pressures at all heights and at all times.

3-Minute Mystery

CAPTAIN JOHN CONNOLLY, of the Intelligence, kicked up a cloud of chalk dust as he trudged down the old road to the disused quarry where the body of Corporal Williams was surrounded by a group of officers and men.

He was greeted by Major Finklater.

"The way I figure it out," said the Major, "is that Williams must've taken the wrong turning, back at that fork. Not knowing he was on the wrong road, he walked over the edge into the quarry!"

"Surely the place is railed in?"

"Well, it was," said the Major. "But there was a cave-in, and now the road leads over the edge. It's a death-trap!"

Before making his examination of the body, Connolly noticed that Williams' head had come to rest on a small boulder which was half embedded in the soft chalk.

The only stone in view, it was covered with blood and hair.

"The man's head is completely smashed in!" he announced. "That's consistent with the accident theory, but the injury might've been caused by an intentional blow on the head."

Connolly eyed the corporal's well-kept uniform and shiny boots.

"Seems to have been a neat dresser," he remarked.

"He was," agreed Major Finklater. "I believe the men in his section called him 'Beau' Williams."

"I'd like to have a look at the edge of the quarry," Connolly suggested.

He climbed back to the old road and searched until he found a long heel-mark made by someone slipping over the edge.

"You can dismiss the accident theory entirely, Major!" he said a few minutes later to Finklater. "This is murder, a carefully planned murder, too!"

HOW DID HE KNOW?

Solution on page 22.

Imaginary Interview on the Black-out Bus

So You Want a Fourpenny One?

WANT a fourpenny-one, do you, Mate? 'Ere you are, then, don't call me "Comrade": it's a good word all right, but just nah it's got a funny flavour—like a nice bit of honest toast wot's been cut off the loaf with an onlony knife.

You say you're prahd to call yourself a "Comrade"? That's fine, but 'oo are you comrades with? I knew a lot of you Communist blokes before the war. Then you 'ated the Fascists and the Nazis. And you swore by the Bolshies. I shouldn't wonder if you're swearing at 'em nahadays?

I don't understand, eh? . . . Too bloomin' true. I don't! There's a lot of things I never will understand abaht your sort. F'rinstance, you was all for fighting "Itlerism" to begin with, but, directly little old 'Itler turns to Moscow, you an' your pals go into a 'uddle and come aht of it prepared to take your oath that the wicked capitalists touched off the whole bonfire.

An' it's funny—ain't it?—'ow Mosley's boys 'ave been saying almost exactly the same thing, barring only that *they* think all capitalists are Jews! . . . 'Ow d'you like being "comrades" with the Blackshirts, chum?

Seems to me your big Comrade Stalin 'as sold you a pup. An' sold 'Itler one, too, thank 'eaven! There 'e wos, your Uncle Joe, the model of a good proletarian leader; leastways, according to you. Peace was all 'e wanted; just peace—not large pieces of Europe.

But wot 'appened after 'Itler 'ad mopped up the poor old Poles? Why, Uncle Joe steps in an' grabs off 'arf of Poland for 'isself! . . . You say that wasn't Poland at all: it was White Russia? . . . P'raps, but it's Red Russia nah and no white lies can change its colour.

After that old man Stalin puts the screw on 'is little pals in the Baltic and they 'ave to knuckle under an' give 'im wot 'e wants. . . Don't I see that Stalin was stopping 'Itler? . . . Yus, I can see that, but wot abaht Finland? . . . You tell me Finland 'ad provoked Russia? . . . Come 'orf it, chum! You're a little feller yerself and you'd scarcely believe 'ow you provoke me! But *I* wouldn't 'it a bloke your size.

'Eavyweight Stalin 'ad no right to go for the flyweight Finn. If there was any provocation, which I don't believe, the Bolshies provoked the provocation; see wot I mean?

Mind you, I'm sorry for you blokes. It must be 'ard to turn somersaults at your time of life. 'Arry Pollitt couldn't do it. Not at first 'e couldn't! 'E's done a sort of 'arf-'earted one since, but, Strewth! the way things are going nah, you may all 'ave to be turning cart-wheels by the time old Stalin 'as finished with you!

Don't you call me a bourgwois and a capitalist wage slave! Don't you tell me I'm a dumb-witted meron! . . . Don't you dare call me a warmonger 'cos I fought in the last big scrap and would 'ave gladly chipped into this one if I'd been young enough! . . .

Yus, you're entitled to your own opinion. . .

But listen, cocky! If you're entitled to your opinion, so am I to mine. And I've got no opinion of you or any other bloke that's always knocking us and always trying to whitewash the bloomin' foreigner.

You call yourself a "comrade"! A precious fine comrade you'd be to the Czechs and the Poles and the Finns that only ask to be left alone! I got no patience with you. You can't think straight, that's wot's the matter with you.

An' if only you wos a bit bigger and up to my fighting weight, I'd be tempted to and you out a real "fourpenny-one" free, gratis *and* for nuthink!

SANTA CROOKS SHOW CLAWS

SIR WYNDHAM CHILDS' WEEKLY WARNINGS

DESPITE the war, it is "business as usual" for Santa Claus bluffers. Their adroit ramps, thought out months ahead, are ready to be launched any minute now. So be on the look out!

Old though most of the tricks are, it is astonishing how many people are hoodwinked each Christmas.

Bargain parcels of Yuletide fare and toys, bogus sweepstakes and charity appeals, with new dodges suited to war time will all be in the holly-trimmed bag.

Men behind this annual raid rake in many thousands of pounds in peacetime. Some of them make enough in these few weeks to live comfortably without doing any work for the rest of the year.

I specially warn everyone to be on guard against the draw that is sure to be offered to householders throughout the country by the most active gang of all, with headquarters on the South Coast.

To the police they are known as "The Brighton Diggers," and they wriggle cunningly through loopholes in the law by employing honest-looking hirelings to persuade some hospital or recognised charitable institution to allow them to use its name.

Some contribution is made to the funds, but there is no check on money paid for tickets and only a few of the attractive prizes are given.

I was just in time last year to save people from being duped in all parts of the country. A few days after my warning appeared I was deluged with books of tickets. Readers wanted to know whether they were part of the racket I meant. They were. A prosecution followed but the real promoters escaped. They had covered their tracks too cleverly.

Beware, too, of doorstep snares by which many Christmas rogues make their easiest hauls. Gramophones, wireless sets, cheap jewellery, cameras and scores of articles suitable as gifts are offered at tempting prices. Samples displayed are always attractive, but once a cash deposit has been obtained nothing more is heard of the smooth-tongued salesman or his goods.

Wary by now of the supposed free photograph enlargement trick, housewives seem to forget their caution at Christmas. It is the same with deposits paid for greeting cards that are never delivered.

The only safeguard is to deal with shops you know, or advertisers vouched for by newspapers.

Already the police are searching for James Henton, whose aliases include Platt, Selby and Chambers. He started the Yuletide plundering of farmers earlier than usual.

Many crooks try his trick. They establish themselves temporarily in areas where wholesale merchants have offices and stores. By making a small deposit to create confidence, they secure turkeys, geese and fowls, and finally disappear owing big sums of money to the farmers.

Masquerading charities such as The Poor Children's Society, of Shaftesbury Hall, Southwark, London, have been busy for weeks. They will be joined by others.

Ordinary caution will prevent these racketeers thriving this Christmas.

Mr. Wright is a Wrong-'Un

YOU can chase Hitler while sitting at home in your armchair, according to W. Wright, who advertises a new puzzle from 1A, Lamb's Conduit Passage, London, W.C.

"The cutest, cleverest folding puzzle ever devised," says the announcement, and roars of laughter are promised. Shopkeepers are offered sets at three shillings a hundred to sell at twopence each.

Window slips for the black-out are also offered, some to sell at a profit of 200 per cent.

Sounds attractive, and it must be very profitable—for "Mr. Wright." Several people who sent cash with their orders have received neither goods nor any reply to their letters.

Answer to that "cute" puzzle is that "Mr. Wright" cloaks the identity of Edward Coates, a jailbird. He needs chasing as much as Hitler.

"No Truck With Hitler"

GEORGE HILSDON, retired business man, of Lansdown Street, Hove, has decided not to bother any more about urging the country to shun Hitler. He founded the "No-Truck-with-Hitler" League with an appeal for country-wide membership and a shilling clover leaf badge.

I'm glad Mr. Hilsdon abandoned his scheme.

It is not for individual citizens to launch campaigns of this kind in war time, and, more serious from my point of view, is that such excuses are seized by fee-snatchers to fill their pockets at the expense of patriotic but gullible people.

Mr. Hilsdon assured my investigator that his object was to defeat dangerous defeatists. I have no reason to doubt him. Yet he was offering for one shilling a badge that cost 4½d. Also his circular urged that badges would make handsome Christmas gifts. The profit, he explained, would barely cover his expenses.

As war goes on, more and more schemes with a subscription and a badge will be dangled before the public.

They became a pest during the last war and unscrupulous rogues made big hauls.

Readers must be on their guard. Apart from being a happy hunting-ground for the fee grabber, these high-sounding movements are superfluous.

Public Benefactor

THIS week's £1 1s. goes to Miss E. M. Bowyer, of Edge Hill Court, Wimbledon, Surrey, who brought to my notice a matter that is now being investigated.

I am always ready to enquire into any scandal or grievance that justifies time and expense involved.

Sometimes I feel that readers may not write to me because they think the matter concerned is too trifling. By refraining from writing, they leave some injustice unremedied.

Write to me on *any* subject. Mark your envelopes "Public Benefactor."

Charles Dennis Boltwood

New Religion for Sale . . .

IF Charles Dennis Boltwood, claiming to be some sort of reincarnation of Charles Kingsley, was not so obviously mercenary he would be amusing. As it is, he ranks among the most insolent charlatans.

He has published a book called "Deathless Freedom," from Thorpe-le-Soken, in Essex, where he controls the Universal Institute Publishing Company, Ltd. Like other books he has published, this is supposed to have been dictated to him by the spirit of the famous author!

It is packed with utter nonsense. One phrase reads, "The Womb-man must arouse from his sleep her mortal half self. . . ." It goes on: "When the Adam-man and the Womb-man effect conjunction the positive pole of the Nucleolus and the negative pole of the Nucleus converge, causing a magnetic combustion which imparts the divine flame."

Apparently all this tosh is intended to illuminate Boltwood's weird creed, the Cult of the Single Eye, based on a Biblical quotation, "If thine eye be single then thy whole body shall be full of light."

Diet seems to have much to do with this belief. There are various health foods that can be bought—from Boltwood!

Now, planning a bigger company to exploit his humbug, he proposes to offer shares for public investment.

He should be left to peddle his own commercialised religion alone. Anyone who gives him a penny will be exceedingly foolish.

—And now he has Disappeared

I URGE the City of London Police to get on the track of Albert Frederick Roberts, who has disappeared from his temporary office in Buchanan Buildings, Holborn, London, after my exposure of his latest ramp.

Pompously trading as the British Farm Commodities, he obtained considerable supplies from small farmers through men he appointed as agents in various parts of the country. Farmers and agents have been duped.

Roberts had also been trying to raise capital for a big amalgamation of butchers' shops. With the imagination for which he is notorious, he visualised a £200,000 concern.

It was just another fairy tale.

All this he did within a short time of coming out of jail, where he has been several times for swindling.

Write to JOHN BULL about it!

SHE WROTE TOO LATE

This is the sort of letter I hate to receive:—

"I AM at present paying 8s. every month to the Westminster County Court on account of an advertisement in the book issued by the so-called British Travel Association, and I should be grateful if you could inform me whether or not it is a genuine firm, as the summons is taken out by the Catherine Press."

I thought I had said enough in the past about the Catherine Press, alias the British Travel Association, alias C. J. Pickering, to indicate the contempt I hold for this individual.

My correspondent continues:—

"I have not received one penny in benefit from my advertisement, or a reply to my letters. I am only a working woman and cannot really afford to pay this sum.

"In addition to the four guineas for advertisement, I have to pay £1 2s. 6d. court fees, which make a total of £5 6s. 6d."

The tragedy is that this reader wrote too late. If she had written to me in time she would NOT have been paying £5 6s. 6d. to C. J. Pickering.

Many people do write to me in time and in those cases C. J. Pickering does NOT recover his illgotten gains!

Service!

FIGHTING for the fighting man in war and peace, JOHN BULL gives him and his dependents every assistance. This page is a testament of JOHN BULL'S determination to go on helping the men in the SERVICES

Tommy, Jack and Bill

MOST Army muddles of the early war days have been rectified. JOHN BULL can assure you of that. But some remain. Worst is the old, old grievance of the round peg in the square hole.

Typical is a reader, a lorry driver in civil life, who threw up his job to enlist when the Army appealed for drivers.

After two months' service, he has only now received his first full week's pay, and been sent to Eastbourne as a waiter in an officers' mess.

Another driver has been similarly transferred.

Yet the unit they have left included several ex-hotel waiters.

We hear, too, of welders and fitters serving in the ranks as ordinary infantrymen, unable to obtain transfer to regiments where their skill would be useful.

This irritating bungling must be ended as quickly as our Free Advice Service deals with other war time difficulties.

Picked at random from our postbag are these:—

F. U., London.—"I am twenty, sit for my final surveyor's examinations next May, after three years' study. Can I obtain postponement of Army service?

You have an excellent case for appeal to the local hardships committee. Address may be had from the employment exchange.

F. L., Birmingham.—"My husband had no leave before going to France. Will he be given leave for Christmas? Will he have to pay his own fare?"

Men who had no draft leave will be among the first to get leave from France. Army pays full return fare.

ALL WAR POSERS, PENSION PROBLEMS, ANY LEGAL, DOMESTIC OR GENERAL QUESTION WILL BE SETTLED FOR YOU BY AN EXPERT IF YOU WRITE TO "JOHN BULL" ABOUT IT.

"Greatest of These"

Mrs. McCaffry—a real mother.

BROADCASTING on November 11, the Queen drew the world's attention to the women stoically bearing the brunt of war without flinching.

She might have had in mind such a mother as Mrs. M. McCaffry, whose husband fought in the last war, while her son is now serving with the Colours.

More than sixty years of age, she is unable to obtain any kind of employment. She was injured by a hit-and-run motorist five years ago, and, after lying helpless in a hospital bed for six months, is still dependent on crutches.

The motorist was never found, and Mrs. McCaffry was never compensated for her suffering and disablement.

She is now ill with gastritis, but it is virtually impossible for her to buy the special foods needed out of her husband's unemployment benefit. She needs your help.

Will readers please send what they can spare? Donations earmarked "Crutches" or for our Christmas Appeal, should be addressed to JOHN BULL War Sufferers' Fund, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

Acknowledgments are sent when names and addresses are given, and lists of subscriptions are kept at this office. A copy of the current week's will be sent on application.

There are no deductions for administration expenses. Every penny sent is devoted to the fund.

We gratefully acknowledge £1 from S. C. (Wimbledon).

War Measures—and You

By a Barrister M.P.

WAR time legislation protects tenants against ejectment for arrears of rent, or levying distress by a landlord. Whether you rent a whole house (or only rooms in a house), or use your dwelling partly as a shop, you have the protection of the Rent Restrictions Acts if:—

It was let to you unfurnished;

Is not a Council House or on-licensed premises, and

Has a rateable value not exceeding £100 (in the Metropolitan Police area), £90 (in Scotland) or £75 (elsewhere in England and Wales).

If your tenancy subsisted *before* the beginning of September, you also have the protection of the Courts (Emergency Powers) Act, 1939, irrespective of rateable value or class of property.

This does not mean that your landlord *cannot* distrain or get possession of your house until the war ends. It means that while this emergency legislation is on the Statute Book he can do neither *without leave of the Court.*

A County Court can not only give your landlord possession if your rent is in arrears, but, if your dwelling comes within the scope of the Rent Restrictions Acts, it can also grant him possession without proof of alternative accommodation if:—

You, your lodger or sub-tenant becomes a nuisance;

You occupy the house as part of your employment and that employment comes to an end; or

You have broken some term of your tenancy.

Even if you are allowed to sub-let part of your premises, you must give your landlord notice in writing of such sub-letting within 14 days thereafter, if it occurred after the beginning of September. You should have given him such notice within three months, if it first occurred before that date.

If you hold your house under an agreement for a period of years that comes to an end shortly, your landlord will be within his rights if he refuses to renew.

If he wishes and the terms of the agreement permit, he can also give you notice to quit.

Although this may be possible, he cannot eject you without leave of the Court, and if your house comes within the rateable values laid down in the Rent Restrictions Acts he cannot raise your standard rent, either as a condition of renewal or otherwise.

MOTHER and SON . . .

Fine human sentiments; rarely expressed in normal times, have been revealed in letters passing between mothers and sons in the Services. Realising that there is a wealth of human interest in these war time documents, JOHN BULL offers half-a-guinea for each of the extracts published.

My Dear Son

SO you're the skipper of an armed trawler. You don't know how proud we feel. I don't know quite what you mean about her being a beauty but skittish. If it means that she rolls and pitches, I should always keep a firm hand on something solid.

Now do keep an eye open for the tin fish, because you know how we are all praying to get you back safely.

I like your new rig, and you wear it as though you are very happy to be Royal Navy, judging by your photograph. But I do not like the set of your cap. You wear it as though it were a high topper, dead on the top of your head.

I'm sending you a picture of the late Jackie Fisher. If you wear it as he always wore it, with just the right tilt, you'll look as dashing as any of the young 'uns.

Don't look for long letters, dear. Your hand gets a bit cramped at seventy, especially if you have done a lot of hard work. It suits my hands better to keep your bed waiting for you, although you'll probably want a bunk.

Bill went up to London and bought latchet and monk fish in a fish shop there. It takes a war to teach those Londoners about the little but good things of life.

From Durham.

I WAS a bit upset at first about your letter telling me that you had joined the Army, especially as you were in a reserved job. Even now I don't think there was any need for you to use deception to join. But I am proud, in a way, to think my two boys are now serving.

Both your dad and I keep looking back at things. I look back—can't help it—to the time when you were babies. It only seems yesterday. Your dad was full of his own war experiences, and I little thought you mites would live to have the same experiences.

Your dad looks back to his own days in France, and tells me that he wouldn't have missed them for worlds. So perhaps everything will happen for the best.

All sorts of lassies are making inquiries about you. There's one I like awfully much, and she's the one I have picked out with the hope that you two will one day settle down. I'm not saying which one it is.

I'll only tell you if your choice should happen to be mine, too.

Dear Mum

From France.

I'M sorry now that I let it slip out that we sleep on the floor, mother, because you seem to think I am lying in water with rats crawling over us.

We're actually in a dry, warm billet. Sleeping on the floor means putting a ground-sheet on the boards, arranging our blankets as a bag, putting our overcoats on as an eiderdown, and folding sundry articles up and using them as a pillow.

So we go to bed round a real coal fire that blazes in the middle of the room, listening to a gloomy Scotsman—a fine fellow, really—speaking in the voice of doom.

I roused them all the other night by making an imitation of an air raid warning with my mouth. A dozen lads upstairs came dashing down.

I've been warned that next time it'll mean the clink, so I'm imitating George Formby instead. It's safer.

The lightning, go-anywhere, do-anything craft will be a deciding factor in war at sea

"SPEED COPS" of the SEAS

Well armed and with an amazing turn of speed, these miniature warships are the Navy's latest reply to marauding U-boats

MORE than ever before, Britain's naval supremacy depends on her "policemen," destroyers, patrolling aircraft, minesweepers, whose task is to keep the seas safe for capital ships and merchantmen.

A newcomer to this valiant all-weather force, a recruit nicknamed the "Speed Cop of the Sea," is the Navy's latest answer to the marauding submarine.

Streamlined, with torpedo "stings" in their tails, depth charges and light but powerful guns, these "speed cops" are the reincarnation of a weapon that put the fear of God into the enemy during the last war.

Light-weights, with finely tuned engines, they can skim *over* water thickly "sown" with mines with little risk, despatching any U-boat that may lurk on the other side.

These "speed cops" are the product of experience gained in the last war, when coastal motor boats did valiant patrol work, sinking submarines, spotting mine-fields, escorting convoys and keeping the enemy on the alert.

Zigzagging at fifty miles an hour, they can dodge air and sea attack. They can turn in a length, and their crews are protected by armoured plating.

They have anti-aircraft guns for enemy planes, depth charges, torpedoes and powerful light guns capable of holing the best-protected submarine.

With crews of seven to twelve men and a range of well over a thousand miles, they are go-anywhere, do-anything craft.

Some of these "speed cops," destroyers in miniature, are attached to ships, others operate from coastal bases.

How important this scientific arm of the modern Navy may be can be illustrated by a few of the exploits of the last war's coastal motor boats and long obsolete M.L.s, twenty-knot, twin-engined motor vessels, 580 of which were built in the United States at a cost of nearly £10,000 each.

Modern "speed cops" are more than twice as fast, infinitely better armed, and their crews of "regulars" have confidence in them. The old American M.L.s were regarded with suspicion by even experienced sailors.

These flimsy, wooden 80-ft. craft were officered by motor-boating enthusiasts, whose sole delight in peace was to brave the roughest seas in tiny craft, glorying in every risk and every difficulty.

Their ratings were engineers, mechanics, and landlubbers, some of whom had never seen the sea, except perhaps from the deck of an excursion paddle-boat, Brighton bound.

No M.L. had a gun bigger than a 13-pounder. U-boats carried 4.1 inchers, a machine gun, 22-pounder, and the usual torpedo tubes.

Yet these frail launches were among the most vital British weapons directed against the under-water pirates.

Their speed made them difficult to hit, and more often than not U-boats ran away rather than face them.

Were it not for the forerunners of our modern small craft, the historic storming and blocking of Zeebrugge on St. George's Day, 1918, might have been a failure.

Sixty-one gallant little M.L.s, as well as a number of motor boats, took part in the historic action.

Towards midnight many of the M.L.s began scurrying to and fro, and they shrouded attacking vessels in dense smoke-clouds, despite the hail of fire from powerful German coastal batteries.

Under this cover, the first of the blockships, *Thetis*, reached the net and barge defences, but her propellers fouled. Holed in many places, she sank before she could manœuvre into the arranged position.

An obsolete cruiser, *Intrepid*, followed *Thetis*, and managed to sink herself, as arranged, in the canal.

With machine-gun bullets plopping into the sea, M.L. 526 hung around and rescued sixty-five officers and men within ten minutes.

MANY launches distinguished themselves during this epic action, but the feat of M.L. 282 in rescuing the crew of the third blockship, *Iphigenia*, is among the most glorious incidents in the history of the Navy.

Iphigenia passed through barrage after barrage of shrapnel, and sank herself astern of *Intrepid*, in the glare of countless searchlights.

M.L. 282 took on board all of the ship's company who had not crowded into the one undamaged cutter.

With wounded packed on her deck, the small craft was faced with passing through a barrage of shells and machine-gun fire.

Lieutenant Dean, an experienced yachtsman, was in charge.

He cleared the canal, and, still under fire, ordered the coxs'n to make for the lighthouse at the end of the mole.

Then the body of a sailor jammed the steering wire, and Lieutenant Dean had to steer with his engines as the M.L. chug-chugged her way into the open sea.

The cutter was cut adrift, and the M.L. reached the destroyer *Warwick* with a hundred survivors on board. She was built to carry only ten men.

THE gallant vessel was cluttered with dead and dying. Its second-in-command was seriously wounded, two of its crew were dead.

On that occasion the M.L.s covered themselves with glory, but for the most part their job was far more humdrum.

Night after night on patrol with "nothing doing" . . . meals eaten in poky cabins with plates and cups slithering here and there . . . every now and then a soaking as ice-cold waves washed over the decks . . .

Britain's new "Speed Cops of the Seas" are being manned by "regulars" of the Navy, but we have thousands of yachtsmen and motor-boating enthusiasts able to keep alive the traditions of courage and service.

Will that BOMB hit ME?

"IF a 500-lb. bomb bursts nobody is safe within half a mile around. . . ." This remark is still heard frequently even though people have had time to recover from original "war nerves."

The imaginary effect of the big bomb is a fantastic fear that needs to be exploded, and the "explosion" can take place without belittling the vital importance of A.R.P.

"Safety first" is one thing; ignorance another.

Documents at the Government's Air Raid Precautions Department, including reports from Spain and Poland, prove how fallacious it is to say that nobody is safe "within half a mile of the burst of a big bomb."

Direct effects of such a bomb-burst even in the case of a 500-lb. high explosive, rarely exceeds a circle of 30 feet round the bomb.

Ten yards, not half a mile!

EVEN if fifty of these bombs were dropped in a square mile of London or other built-up area, any individual in that square mile would have a 100 to 1 chance of escaping direct hit effects.

Chances in an average raid would much more likely be 1,000 to one. It would take twelve powerful aircraft, each carrying a maximum cargo of four 500-lb. bombs, to drop fifty of them in any square mile of a crowded city. Such a possibility is remote.

Most casualties would be caused by falling splinters. Public and private shelters, well shored-up basements and even the interior of any well-constructed building, give a considerable degree of safety against these secondary effects.

A bomb must fall very near to a solid building to bring it down.

Government experts have proved that the ordinary official garden shelter, sunk three feet in the ground, is not damaged by the burst of a 500-lb. bomb 25 feet away.

Animals were locked in shelters 15, 30 and 50 feet away from a 500-lb. bomb, which was exploded with its nose resting on the ground to give the fullest blast effect.

NO animal inside the shelters, not even those only 15 feet away, suffered ill-effects.

The same applied to others left outside shelters at 50 feet.

All this should in no way be taken to minimise the inescapable results of a direct hit, or the need of adequate precautions, but they should go a long way to console those who are distressed by foolish and harmful chattering.

Quoting last war figures, Mr. Churchill disclosed that one ton of explosives, equivalent to about four and a half 500-lb. bombs, dropped in London killed ten people on the average, wounded thirty.

One person would be within 30 feet, and three others within 60 feet of the point of explosion.

Mr. Churchill also estimated that the chances of injury in the countryside were thirty-five times lower than in London.

He says that if no fewer than a hundred 200-lb. bombs were dropped at random in Oxfordshire, with a population of 210,000, not more than three persons would be killed, nine wounded. The county's normal death-rate is seven a day.

The moral of all this is clear. Not one life should be sacrificed by negligence in the adequate provision and manning of our A.R.P. defences. Equally, fantastic ideas about big bomb effects should not be spread to weaken the morale on the Home Front.

If fifty 500-lb. high-explosive bombs were dropped in a square mile of London, each resident would have a 100 to one chance of escaping.

12-in-One Gift

THE demand for JOHN BULL'S Christmas gift for children, "The Mammoth Book of Working Models," with its twelve, large-sized coloured working models all ready cut out for putting together, has been so great that the offer must now be withdrawn. Final reservations forms, appearing on page 4, should be posted immediately if you are not to be too late.

Without Fear or Favour

BUMBLING TH

By the EDITOR

AFTER three months of war we should like to believe that Great Britain has become one vast hive of industry—a hive where there is no room for drones and where the worker and soldier bees are all busy as can be.

Actually, this is not the case. There are still drones in plenty. Some are idle by selfish choice, but nearly a million and a half worker-bees are idle—as Mr. Gardiner points out in his trenchant article on page 9—because no work has been found for them.

Here we are not concerned with the drones, but only with the "Bumble" bees, who never buzz more loudly than when they get in the way of the workers.

Don't tell us that there are no "Bumbles" among the real bees. We know that, but still, with fine disregard for natural history, we assert that there are swarms of them in the nation's war time hive.

They are the "Bumbles" of the new—and we hope temporary—bureacracy. Like Dickens' famous beadle, who gave the whole breed his name, they swell with indignation whenever the "Oliver Twists" of business and civilian life ask for more—more freedom, more petrol, more light, more information or more anything than the "Bumbles" think good for them.

The Fighting Services have always been fortunate in their gallant "temporary gentlemen," but the Civil Service is not so lucky in its own temporary "officers."

Broadly speaking, the real Civil Servant is an efficient, loyal and useful worker, by no means overpaid. He is apt to be a bit of a snob and may have too much respect for seniority and "red tape."

But at heart he is a thoroughly good fellow—a true servant of the public and a "civil" one at that.

When war broke out, however, new Ministries had to be set up with scores of departments and sub-departments. Control boards, supply boards, registration and ration schemes, and so on, all needed directors, deputy directors, controllers, and sub-controllers with an army of underlings.

How They Buzzed!

The regular Civil Service could not supply this huge demand, and so all sorts and conditions of men and women were called in to help—among them a multitude of "Bumbles."

Naturally, each new official soon wanted an assistant to assist him. "The little fleas have lesser fleas upon their backs to bite 'em; and lesser ones have lesser ones and *so ad infinitum!*"

In other words, the "Bumbles" multiplied exceedingly and, buzzing with self-importance, handed out fresh jobs by the hundred—often enough to people who didn't need them, didn't deserve them and were not up to them.

We want to be fair about this. We know that the Government had to make appointments quickly, and we recognise that many of them have been filled by able and disinterested men and women.

But the Civil Service itself complains bitterly that suitability and efficiency have not been the only standards. It complains of "wire pulling" as well as plain "bad picking."

We complain of these things, too, and more besides. We do so, not in any spirit of mere grumbling, but because the Government can, if it chooses, avoid a repetition of its early mistakes and make haste now to rectify those that have been made already.

Nobody knows how the big "Bumbles" came to be chosen in the first place, for nothing could be coyer than the answers which various Ministers have given to questions on this subject.

But, to take one glaring instance among many, the original headquarters staff of the Ministry of Information numbered 999—a total which has since been reduced to 152!

These figures were given in the House only the other day, though the story of the Ministry itself is an old one. We do not wish to rehash it and we are well aware that many officials "axed" in this Ministry have been transferred to other departments.

The fact remains that there must have been a lot of "bad picking" here—not to speak of the "nice pickings" enjoyed for a while at least by scores of superfluous "Bumbles."

They're Paid Twice

And what is true of one Ministry seems likely on the face of it to be true of others.

Indeed, we assert that there is over-staffing in many Government offices.

That ought to be stopped at once. The Government is preaching economy and should be the first to practise it. It can do so by dismissing every temporary official who is not doing strictly necessary work.

We now come to another aspect of waste in the national administration—the needless employment of "pensioners."

Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd said that of sixteen divisional petrol-rationing officers thirteen are pensioners

JOHN BULL takes the view that no "pensioner," whether he be a retired policeman, Civil Servant, general or admiral, ought to expect full pay and pension for voluntary war time services.

But the administration is "stiff with pensioners." Mr. Geoffrey Lloyd, in a written answer to a recent question, said that of sixteen divisional petrol-rationing officers drawing salaries from £500 to £800 a year, eleven are retired Civil Servants and two are retired Army Officers.

Thirteen pensioners for sixteen jobs! Nice work if you can get it!

We don't blame these men for taking the posts offered to them, but we do denounce the system which permits any man to be paid twice over for one job of work.

Another kind of waste—more serious in principle but less extensive in practice than the wastage on "pensioners"—is to be found in the employment of "pin money" women and "dear old pals."

Experience in the last war should have put every Minister on guard against this nepotism—this natural human tendency to squeeze one's friends and relatives into soft jobs.

In 1918, it was a standing joke to talk of the nephews and the cousins and "the little lady friends" who sat at big desks or carried round tea-trays in the palatial offices of their protecting "Bumbles." But it was a joke that left a bad taste in the public mouth.

We do not imagine favouritism is as rife to-day as it was then, but it certainly exists.

Too much publicity may have been given to the case of one young woman, appointed at a salary of £200 a year to act as secretary to her father, himself a Deputy Secretary to a certain Minister.

She appears to have been a competent girl who had given up a better post to accept the new one.

But not enough publicity has been given to the appointment of hundreds of "pin money" women to official positions—big and small.

Pin-Money Workers

Obviously, we are not free to give particulars of individual cases. We cannot name, for instance, a girl of seventeen, daughter of well-to-do parents and recently appointed, fresh from school, at a salary of £3 15s. a week to a post which she may, or may not, be able to fill well. We only know that it could have been equally well filled by some unemployed clerk—and in London alone there are 15,000 of them!

Our main complaint on this score is that, so long as there are capable men and women out of work, it is unfair and nationally extravagant to leave them idle and to appoint "pin money" workers of any kind in their place.

When there is the slightest suspicion that such appointments are due to "wire pulling" or favouritism, we no longer complain: we protest.

And, in certain instances, the suspicion is unavoidable. Only the other day, for instance, the Minister of Pensions admitted that thirteen women relatives of officials had been given jobs in his department. They included wives, daughters, nieces and a daughter-in-law.

All of them may be competent. All of

ROUGH!

them may earn their salaries. But, clearly, all of them would have been better advised to find employment elsewhere.

There is one other aspect of "Bumbledom" which causes us grave concern—the wastage of time and business opportunity arising from the diffusion of departments, the multiplication of officials and the tedious processes of routine.

To finance this war taxation and borrowing are not enough: Britain's export trade must be preserved.

The Government is well aware of this, but, none the less, it has found it necessary to establish a multitude of controllers, whose head offices are scattered all over the country.

Steel, timber, alcohol, wool; jute, flax, hemp, leather; petrol, tea, fish, coal; meat, sugar, bacon, cocoa; flour, butter, yeast, cheese and birdseed, are all controlled, or have been controlled, and we may have forgotten some other commodities.

Axe Must Fall

We are not prepared to say that the controls were unnecessary. Many of them obviously were; others could, perhaps, have been dispensed with.

But all of them are adding to the problems of the export trade. Business men are being throttled by their red tape. Orders are being lost because it takes so long to obtain the necessary permits.

And, in one or two instances, there is an uneasy feeling abroad that controllers have been appointed, not because they were necessarily the most suitable men, but because they happened to be the "biggest" men in the particular trade.

The "axe," like night, must fall sooner or later in the forests of bureaucracy. The Premier has already promised to appoint a Select Committee on Government expenditure.

The sooner it gets to work, the better we shall be pleased.

Have YOU a bright idea that may help to win the war? Then send it to Britain's——

BRAINWAVE BRIGADE

IT is a melancholy fact that war supplies the greatest stimulus to invention and scientific development. Every day since this war began, JOHN BULL's postbag has been packed with letters offering suggestions for every kind of weapon.

Some seem sound; others crazy. Yet there is one thing common to all these letters. "Is there any place where I can get this idea of mine examined?" says every letter. "Is anybody in the Services interested in suggestions put up by laymen?"

As far as the professional inventor is concerned, the man who spends time and money on having patents filed is in the same position as he was in 1914-18.

Scientists carrying out air tests at an experimental station "somewhere in England"

On the day war started every new patent application having the remotest use for war-like purposes went into special files and off public registers. Machinery devised twenty-five years ago swung into operation at once to ensure that all patents were submitted first to the appropriate Service or Ministry.

To assist our war economy, an Order in Council appeared permitting the taking over and working in this country of all enemy inventions on Patent Office files. There are thousands of such patents, ranging from special fuses, shells, explosives and aircraft engines to highly important manufacturing processes.

Many of the most fruitful suggestions of the last war came from the non-professionals. The Royal Commission on Awards to Inventors, sitting for many years after the last war, produced ample evidence of that. Reading the proceedings of that commission and remembering all the appalling obstacles put in the way of the lay inventor, it is a miracle that any of the suggestions ever came to anything.

This time the brainwave brigade is in for a better deal. Right at the beginning of the war research and experiment departments were set up by each Service, all of them staffed by scientists of repute, for examining thoroughly every idea submitted.

A memorandum issued by the Director of Scientific Research at the Admiralty *invites* all members of the public to put their suggestions or inventions before his department, in writing. It guarantees secrecy, and offers profit protection to the inventor.

When Hitler started using the "magnetic mine" more than a thousand ideas for defeating this weapon flooded into the Admiralty. Every one was examined.

It is no secret now that we can cope adequately with this menace, but among those thousand ideas there may have been occasional suggestions that would improve the original device. However important, or trifling, authorship will be rewarded. **That is now laid down in definite regulations.**

The Ministry of Supply has a special department, also staffed by scientists, that is coping with inventors' ideas and plans for war-winning apparatus, weapons, and material at the rate of 300 a week.

Many of the ideas are similar to those sent to us by readers.

The County Derry man who told us of an idea for a new type of shell should send his suggestion to this Ministry of Supply department. It does not matter that he is not an expert on explosives or a draughtsman. His idea will be examined by the ballistics committee, which tackles hundreds of similar proposals.

So should the Leeds journeyman metal worker, who forgot to give his address. He should send his idea for body armour to the same department. The North Country lawyer who has "dabbled with electricity and boats" all his life, should let Professor Lindemann's department at the Admiralty see a fully worked out plan for his technique of destroying magnetic mines. The rough idea looks good.

All sorts of people, joining the brainwave brigade, are helping in their own way to beat Hitler. Even the Chief Censor himself, Vice-Admiral Usborne, has found time to invent a buoyancy device for damaged ships. So perhaps he will not mind us quoting a few more of the ideas submitted by other amateur inventors to these research departments from a recent list of one day's offers which a department revealed to us.

They include a radio-controlled tank, a type of chain shot for use against aircraft, an elaborate scheme for decoy lighting against enemy raiders, a special shell for artillery "spotting," and a chemical camouflage.

By 'John Bull's' Scientific Expert

Among the most valuable recruits to this amateur brigade of helpers are German refugees, some of whom have previously been scientists of high repute. They have made many suggestions.

Inventions originally created for warlike purposes have found great use in peace. An amateur suggested the gum solution technique for treatment of wound shock in the last war. It has saved the lives of thousands of accident victims in the past twenty years. Dozens of unknown people contributed towards the tank. After the war we developed farm tractors from the same principle.

JOHN BULL is not a patents adviser, but if any reader cares to send us a simple indication of the subject on which he has ideas, we promise to give him the address of the department to which he should send a complete description.

There is an enormous amount of inventive genius lying about this country, unquarried and unused. But it can be useful. And Britain's brainwave brigade can do its bit, as with any of the Army brigades in France.

The Human Machine

There's Always an Antidote

WHEN the crushed dock leaf takes the fire out of a nettle's sting you should pause to consider the amazing kindliness of Nature in providing an antidote for so many things that are evil.

Symbolic of this sweet mystery of life is the neutralising of an acid burn by the application of an alkali.

It is but one example from many thousands. But we must never think that this fortunate provision is an accident.

It is a universal law.

There is an antidote for every ill—if we take the trouble to find it.

Depression is among the worst mental ills to which we fall victims, and idleness is the cause of most gloom and depression.

This is no new discovery.

That shrewd old fellow Robert Burton doesn't mince his words on the subject in his curious book, "The Anatomy of Melancholy."

"Idleness," he says, "is the bane of body and mind, the nurse of naughtiness, the chief mother of all mischief, one of the seven deadly sins, the devil's cushion, his pillow and chief reposal.

"An idle dog will be mangy: and how shall an idle person escape?

"Idleness of the mind is much worse than that of the body: wit, without employment, is a disease—the rust of the soul, a plague, a hell itself."

This may sound a little extravagant to our ears, but the truth is there. And there is an antidote for the poison.

Robert Burton

You must keep your mind occupied if you don't want to become "mangy." Increase your knowledge. There are lots of things you want to know. Set about finding out about them.

Idle minds have to become adepts at killing time, a peculiarly sterile occupation. Occupied and busy minds find time too valuable to kill. They realise it's the raw material of happiness.

WILL SCOTT, taking inspiration for another short story from war-time conditions, introduces that Smiling Man With the Basin of Butter

HE Called BACK

He dropped one of the pellets from the cardboard box into the basin, and Mrs Griggs watched it slowly sink to the bottom. "Plate," cried the smiling salesman

NUMBER ONE, Maple Avenue, Pottersfield. He pushed back the gate, walked up the path, tapped on the front door and began there.

"Good morning, madam," he said cheerfully to the faded woman who responded to his knock.

"Not to-day, thank you," said the faded woman. Her name was Griggs, not that he ever found out or cared.

"But you don't know what it is," said he.

"Not to-day, thank you, really," said Mrs. Griggs.

He smiled more genially than ever.

"Butter!" he said.

"I beg your pardon?"

"Butter!"

"Butter?"

"Exactly."

Mrs. Griggs looked puzzled.

"How do you mean?"

"Butter rations," said he.

She still looked puzzled.

"There is no need, absolutely no need for you to go short of butter," he told her. "Rations or not."

"YOU can't get more than the ration," said she.

"You can," said he.

"How?"

"May I come in and show you? I won't take more than a minute. It won't cost you a penny."

Dubiously she admitted him and he followed her through to the kitchen.

"I shall want," said he, "a pint basin."

"Well, that's easy," said Mrs. Griggs.

She produced a pint basin.

"Nearly, but not quite, filled with water."

She nearly, but not quite, filled it with water.

"A tablespoonful of milk," said he.

She got that.

"Put it in," said he.

"Into the water?" asked Mrs. Griggs.

"Yes," said he.

She added the milk to the water in the basin.

"A pinch of salt," said he.

In went a pinch of salt.

"Now," said he.

He took from his pocket a cardboard box and removed the lid. Inside she saw a number of round pellets about the size of marbles, a bright yellow in colour.

"What are they?" she asked.

"Ah!" said he. "Watch!"

HE dropped one of the pellets into the basin and she watched it slowly sink to the bottom.

"Plate!" said he.

She handed him a plate.

This he placed on top of the basin, and then looked round the room.

"Somewhere dark," he said. "What about the larder cupboard?"

"That's dark," said Mrs. Griggs.

Carefully he carried the basin to the larder cupboard and slid it along a shelf. Then he closed the door.

"On no account must the basin be stirred, moved or even touched for two hours," said he. "And it *must* be kept in the dark."

"Two hours?"

"Two hours."

"What happens then?"

"I'll call back," said he. "Then you'll see."

He walked briskly to the door.

"Two hours' time," he said. "Then you'll see."

He went next door to No. 3, Maple Avenue, Pottersfield.

Later to No. 5.

And No. 7. . . .

In two hours he had covered a considerable part of Pottersfield. A very considerable part indeed. And had arrived back outside No. 1, Maple Avenue.

For the second time he pushed back the gate, walked up the path and tapped on the front door. The door opened.

"Oh, it's you!" said Mrs. Griggs.

"I've called back, you see. All ready?"

"I don't know. You'd better come in."

In he went, brisk and business-like as ever.

"Come through."

They went into the kitchen.

"Now what?" said Mrs. Griggs.

"I'll show you," said he.

He opened the larder door and brought out the basin. This he placed upon the kitchen table. He then removed the plate which had served as a lid.

"Look!" he said.

MRS. GRIGGS looked. Looked and gasped.

The basin was full to the brim with a thick yellow substance.

"Good heavens!" Mrs. Griggs exclaimed. "Where did it come from?"

"You saw," he answered.

"It looks like butter," said she.

"It *is* butter," said he.

"Yes, but ——"

"Taste it."

Mrs. Griggs tasted it.

"It *is* butter!"

"What did I tell you?"

"I'd like to see those things again," said Mrs. Griggs.

He dived into his pocket and again brought forth the cardboard box. He took off the lid and Mrs. Griggs stared fascinated at the round yellow pellets.

"I can't believe it," said she.

"You saw," he reminded her.

"And that's all you have to do?"

"Just that."

She tasted the butter again.

"It *is* butter!"

"It certainly is."

"What do you call these things?" she asked, pointing to the pellets.

"Buttettes," he replied.

"And the price?"

(*Continued on page 22*)

Fight nerves, worry, fatigue with

THE QUICK ACTION TONIC

Wincarnis is putting new heart and life into thousands of women who were feeling 'just a bit down.' For war-time nerviness and general over-strain, there is no substitute for the quick restorative action of Wincarnis. You can *feel* the strength flowing into you, from the fine wines reinforced with beef and malt extracts.

BUY WINCARNIS NOW. THE PRICE IS NOT YET UP, IN SPITE OF THE NEW WINE DUTY.

A NURSE'S TESTIMONIAL—

'I am just recovering from an attack of bronchitis, have found it a good pick-me-up. I shall certainly have more, and recommend it to my patients.' Nurse V.M. (Cornwall)

Health is priceless

WINCARNIS

Still only 5'6 and 3'3

LIXEN

is gentle & thorough even with sensitive stomachs – because it's natural

LIXEN
the good-natured LAXATIVE

- ✕ *not griping*
- ✕ *not habit-forming*
- ✕ *gentle & thorough*
- ✕ *best for children, adults & invalids*
- ✕ *Obtainable only from chemists.*

LIXEN is pleasant fruit-flavoured lozenges. Tins of 12—7½d. 24—1/-.
LIXEN ELIXIR in bottles at 1/-, 1/9d. and 3/-.
ALLEN & HANBURYS LTD., LONDON, E.C.2

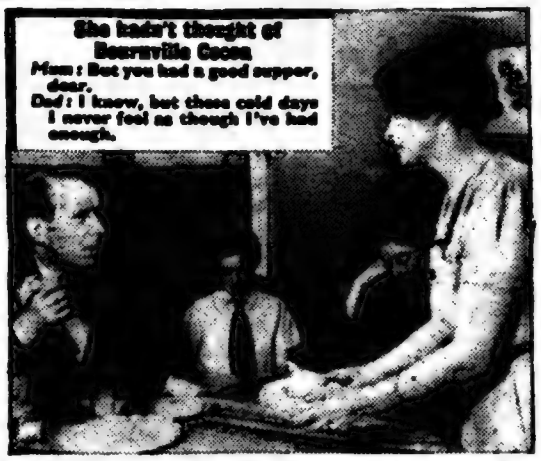
L.36

ONE FOOD THAT'S STILL AT PEACE-TIME PRICE

Read this valuable housekeeping advice

BALANCE your food budget, in spite of rising prices. Keep down the grocery bills, keep away the doctors' bills, see your family through a healthy, happy winter with Bournville Cocoa. You know how soothing and warming Bournville Cocoa is to drink — but did you know that a cup of Bournville Cocoa, made with all milk, is equal to two eggs or half a pound of cod? And you get 28 cups of Bournville Cocoa from a ¼ lb. tin. The same price, sixpence. And bigger value still when you buy ½ lb. tins — twice as much for 11d.

These pictures show you how one housewife is getting over her war-time food problems. And there's an interesting letter just below.


She hadn't thought of Bournville Cocoa
Mum: But you had a good supper, dear.
Dad: I know, but these cold days I never feel as though I've had enough.

She gave them Bournville Cocoa
Dad: This is the stuff to give the troops
Mum: I don't know why I didn't give you Bournville Cocoa before—I was brought up on it!
Jack: Hi! Leave some for me!
Arthur: Go on, mum! More than that!

Engineer's Wife

Had 5 more children in September

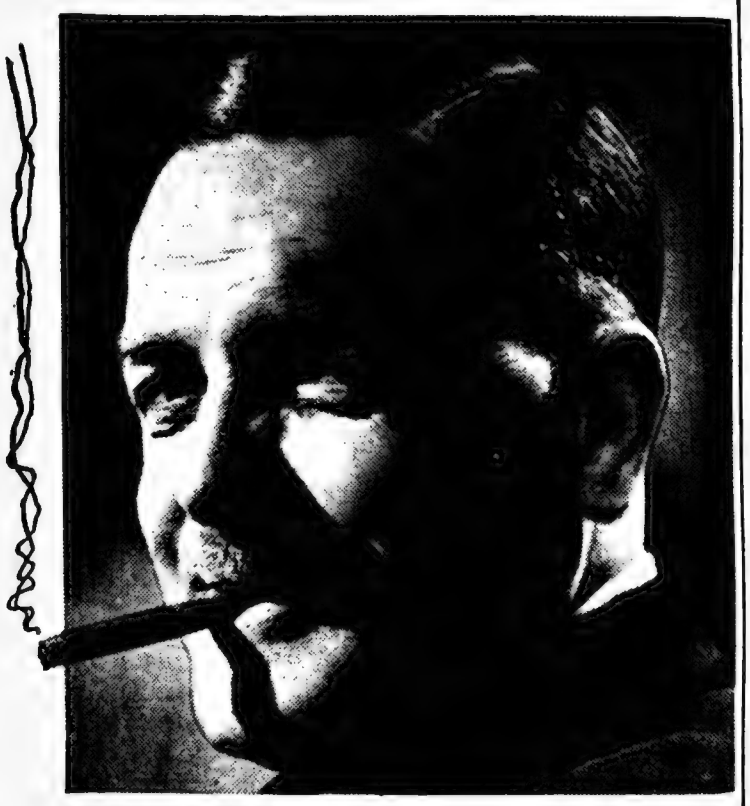
'On the first of September I was in my own little house in Battersea (London) with my one baby, Alan, aged three, to look after,' says Mrs. Rosa McIlroy, an engineer's wife who was evacuated to Berkshire. 'The next day I found myself in the country — and I had five extra children as well as my own to look after . . . I wondered how on earth I'd manage for all their food. Then one of them asked for Bournville Cocoa and my troubles were over. You should see them tucking into their Bournville Cocoa at breakfast and at supper. They're filling out nicely and I don't need to worry about my budget. Bournville Cocoa is certainly a blessing in times like these.'

THIS WILL BE A BOURNVILLE COCOA WINTER

Bournville Cocoa is one of those rare foods which as well as being 'good for you' are really delicious to drink. Bournville is a 'filling' food drink, satisfying your hunger and giving you a genial warmth. Give your family plenty of Bournville Cocoa and keep them warm and well right through the winter.

BOURNVILLE COCOA

— A CUP OF COCOA IS A CUP OF FOOD



There's a tip-top reason why..

Manikins are best

MANIKIN Cigars are rolled from the delicate tip leaves of tobacco—too small for bigger cigars yet actually the sweetest of all. That's why Manikins are always so mild and soothing.

5 for 1/-

METAL POCKET CASE - 15 for 3/-

DUTY FREE

You can send 60 Manikins to the boys in France for 7/6. Ask your tobacconist for details.

MILD HAVANA FLAVOUR

MADE BY J. R. FREEMAN & SON, LTD. • ESTABLISHED 1839

CONTINUING WILL SCOTT'S STORY

He Called Back

"Ten shillings the box."

"Only ten shillings?"

"Only ten shillings. The war can go on for ever if it likes, but you need never be short of butter."

A shadow crossed Mrs. Griggs' face.

"Of course, it's illegal."

"How?" said he.

"I mustn't buy more butter than my ration."

He smiled, pointing to the pellets.

"*These* aren't butter," he explained. "They *become* butter under the process. Oh, it's quite legal, believe me."

"If you can wait, I'll get you the ten shillings."

"And I will get you a new box of Buttettes out of my car."

He went outside. She went upstairs. The transaction was completed on the doorstep.

"Thanks ever so much."

"Thank *you*, madam. Good-day."

Mrs. Griggs went indoors. He proceeded to No. 3. Later to No. 5. And No. 7. And so on. . . .

MRS. GRIGGS, in her kitchen, poured water into a basin until it was nearly full. She added milk. She added salt. She dropped in one of the bright yellow pellets and over the top she placed a plate. Carefully she carried the basin to the larder cupboard and pushed it along a shelf. She closed the door.

"Herbert will be surprised!" she said to herself.

And Herbert came home from the office at seven o'clock, not knowing he was going to be surprised.

"I've got a surprise for you," said Mrs. Griggs.

"Well?" said Mr. Griggs.

"I can tear up my butter ration ticket!" said Mrs. Griggs.

He waited for the catch in it.

"Honestly," said Mrs. Griggs.

"Meaning?"

"Meaning that you can have all the butter on the bread that you wish, even if the war lasts ten years," said Mrs. Griggs. "And you know what a one you always were for butter."

Mr. Griggs still waited for the catch in it.

"Come with me," said Mrs. Griggs, "and I'll show you."

She took him into the kitchen and opened the larder door. She brought out a basin covered with a plate and set it on the kitchen table. She removed the plate.

"Look!" she said.

Mr. Griggs looked.

"Well?" said he.

Mrs. Griggs looked.

At the bottom of the basinful of milky-looking liquid reposed a bright yellow pellet.

"Well, go on," said Mr. Griggs.

Mrs. Griggs sat down and cried. Then she explained.

"What's happened to the butter he made?" asked Mr. Griggs.

"He must have taken it with him," said Mrs. Griggs.

"You didn't get the number of his car?" asked Mr. Griggs.

"I never thought," confessed Mrs. Griggs.

Wotto and the Professor sat in their favourite hostelry in Charing Cross Road.

"This war," said Wotto, "is going to ruin the business."

"I haven't played a date," said Professor Plush, "for nearly three months."

"Same with me," moaned Wotto. "I've got a fill-in next week at Pottersfield, but what's a week?"

"Pottersfield . . ." said Professor Plush. "I was there about twelve years ago. Where are you? Theatre Royal?"

"Yes," said Wotto. "Any good?"

"Not to me," said the Professor. "Most humiliating."

"Humiliating?"

"Wait," said the Professor, "till you see the townspeople. You'll loathe 'em. They hissed me off the stage in the middle of my act, passed the news round, and laughed at me in the street for the rest of the week. Pottersfield? No. I don't owe Pottersfield anything, thank you."

"HM," sighed Wotto. "It sounds good. And you never went back there any more, of course?"

"I was there last week," said the Professor. "Picked up a packet."

Wotto's eyebrows went up.

"I thought you said you hadn't worked for three months."

"Ah, this was different. This was selling butter."

"Butter?" said Wotto, the One-Armed Wonder.

"Butter," said Professor Plush, the "Famous Society Conjurer and Illusionist."

"Wait till I've had 'em filled up and I'll tell you all about it."

There is no need for women to get that 'ageing' look if only they will take care to preserve the line of youth. The ALL-IN-ONE' CORSELETTE makes your girlhood charm a lasting beauty. Combining all the good features of a corset, belt and brassiere in one garment, well-dressed women wear this famous model because it gives them ideal support with a sleek fashion line from shoulder to thigh. The underbelt corrects obesity and abdominal weakness, preserving your youthful charm and benefiting your health. In rich, hard wearing Tea Rose Brocbe with superquality elastic panels at side. *Adjustable* shoulder straps. Spiral steels only where necessary. Sizes range from 30 to 46 ins. bust. The price of the 'ALL-IN-ONE' Corselette is 9/11. Send 1/- (plus 6d. postage) and see one ON APPROVAL. Pay the balance in one sum or 2/- monthly, whichever you prefer (NO EXTRA FOR EASY TERMS).

BUST | HIPS | Please send me an 'ALL-IN-ONE' CORSELETTE ON APPROVAL.

WAIST | I enclose Postal Order for 1/6 (deposit and postage) with full name (Mrs. or Miss) & Address (Overseas full cash.) J.Bull. 7/12/39

AMBROSE WILSON LTD.
600 Ambrose House, 69 Vauxhall Bridge Rd., London, S.W.1

3 Minute Mystery
SOLUTION

Connolly realised that Williams had been murdered elsewhere and the body arranged in the quarry to make his death appear to be an accident. Because his boots were "shiny," Connolly knew the man had not walked to the quarry.

Otherwise his boots would have been covered with chalk dust.

The man's head was resting on top of the only boulder in the quarry. Had he fallen against this with sufficient force to smash his head, the impetus would have carried his body clear. There was no possibility of the head remaining there.

Wattle hurdles make an efficient yet cheap screen.

Richard Sudell says

Keep Out the Cold!

AS it is well known that a sheltered garden produces earlier crops than land exposed to bitter winds, it is worth while for the gardener to experiment with methods whereby crops can be protected.

Walls and evergreen hedges are equally valuable as protection from cold winds, but woven board fences can also provide a lot of shelter.

A cheap screen can be created by wattle hurdles. They can easily be arranged across an allotment or vegetable patch to act as a wind-breaker.

Made in 6-ft. lengths, either 3 ft. or 6 ft. high, they are light and portable.

Cloches are suitable for covering autumn-sown crops of peas, beans and lettuce. They can be kept in constant use and are a good investment, especially when early crops are desired.

Cold frames are useful for protecting crops of salads and vegetables.

THE Dutch light frame, a recent method of covering crops during cold months, is used without artificial heat. It consists of a large pane of glass, 4 ft. 10 in. by 2 ft. 8 in., in a frame.

Rows of spring cabbage can be protected by drawing soil around the stems with a hoe. Broad beans are quite hardy when they come above the soil, but, like all crops, they make more advanced growth if given a little protection.

Prunings from overgrown evergreens, such as laurel and aucuba, make useful protection during winter months. Small pieces pushed into the soil between rows of vegetable crops afford slight protection from cold frosty winds.

Many gardeners are trying to keep tender plants in the greenhouse from suffering the effects of frost while economising on fuel. The atmosphere must be kept dry. Ventilators should be closed at three in the afternoon to shut in a little sun heat, and plants should be kept on the dry side.

Cover tender plants during hard frosts with sheets of newspaper. Open ventilators on warm days to harden the plants.

Potato growers have discovered that tubers stood on end to sprout in autumn give a better yield than potatoes sprouted in spring.

AND by ordering your potatoes now you will be sure of getting the necessary varieties.

The ideal tuber should be 2 in. long, the size of an egg. Stand tubers close together on end in a box, the rose end with most eyes uppermost.

Line the bottom of a shallow box with a few moist, decayed leaves, to prevent the tubers from shrivelling. By planting-out time a little root growth will have formed, and is easily moved, with leaves attached, into the potato trench.

BANISH CONSTIPATION by this pleasant "ONE-DAY" Method!

Millions of happy people all over the world have discovered that Feen-a-mint is the safest laxative they can buy. The reason: Feen-a-mint is not habit-forming. You don't take Feen-a-mint every day—day after day. Feen-a-mint banishes constipation naturally—with the occasional dose. It *regulates* the system; puts it "on the right road" again; puts you back to healthy normality.

That's not all! Feen-a-mint is safe and pleasant to take (kiddies love it!) and it has no after-effects whatever. Feen-a-mint works naturally and thoroughly. It's amazing how *soon* after taking Feen-a-mint you feel fit and vital. Take Feen-a-mint and you end once and for all stomach upsets, loss of appetite and that "half fit" feeling.

You'll need only one trial of Feen-a-mint to convince you. Get a package today; it's so valuable to your health! And if you're not satisfied your money will be refunded. Obtainable at chemists and stores everywhere.

MAKE YOUR *Christmas Cake*

JUST THE SAME

WAR-TIME Christmas cooking isn't going to be such a problem after all! For you can get Stork again — *as much Stork as ever you need.* So now it will be no trouble to make your Christmas cakes, puddings and pastry as light and delicious as Stork always makes them. Stork-made things are always more digestible — more nourishing, too. Both are especially important in these times. Use Stork for *all* your Christmas cooking!

Use this recipe for your

WAR-TIME CHRISTMAS CAKE

12 ozs. self-raising flour
1 teaspoonful mixed spice
4 ozs. ground almonds
8 ozs. currants
8 ozs. sultanas
8 ozs. raisins
2 ozs. glacé cherries
4 ozs. mixed candied peel
8 ozs. Stork Margarine
8 ozs. soft brown sugar
4 eggs
½ pint milk
Grated rind and juice of 1 orange

Sift the flour and spice together and mix with the ground almonds. Clean the sultanas and currants in flour. Stone and chop the raisins. Cut the cherries in quarters. Remove the surplus sugar from the candied peel and chop it finely. Mix all the fruits together with the orange rind and juice. Cream the Stork with the brown sugar and beat very well, until the sugar is melted. Beat the eggs and milk together. Pour into the sugar mixture, first two tablespoonsful of flour, etc., then two tablespoonsful of egg and milk. Continue until all are mixed in, then stir in the mixed fruit—and stir very well. Put into a large round tin lined with paper brushed with melted Stork. Bake for 1 hour in a moderate oven (Regulo Mark 4), then for 3 hours longer in a slow oven (Regulo Mark 1). Test with a clean knife before taking out of the oven. Cool on a wire tray, then wrap in paper and put into a tin for at least a week. This cake is large enough for twelve people. For a family of four or five take half of each of the ingredients and bake for 1 hour in a moderate oven, then for 1½ hours in a slow oven. (Regulo Mark 4, then Regulo Mark 1.)

Almond Icing

8 ozs. ground almonds
6 ozs. icing sugar
6 ozs. castor sugar
1 egg
2-3 drops almond essence
½ teaspoonful vanilla
1 teaspoonful lemon juice
Orange-flower water

Sieve the almonds and the icing sugar and castor sugar together. Add the almond and vanilla essences to the egg and beat them together. Add the lemon juice. Mix with the almonds and sugar. Add enough orange-flower water to make a firm paste. Knead until perfectly smooth. Roll into a round the size of the cake on a board dusted with icing sugar. Brush the top of the cake with a little warm golden syrup and fit the almond icing on.

Cover with White Icing

8 ozs. icing sugar
1 dessertspoonful orange-flower water
A little warm milk
2 teaspoonsful lemon juice

Sieve icing sugar, and mix the milk and orange-flower water together and stir into the sugar. Add the lemon juice to the icing, which should be like thick cream. Pour over the top of the cake and smooth with a knife dipped in warm water. Decorate according to your taste.

STORK MARGARINE

CONTAINS SUNSHINE VITAMINS A and D

JSC 1-336-65

CONCERT PARTY FOR THE TROOPS
With nagging worry at the back of everyone's mind, we need all the entertainment we can get. But entertainment alone isn't enough to stop us feeling tired and depressed. For that we need the right kind of sleep every night.

In times of **strain** we all need **1st Group Sleep**

CITY FIRM REMOVING TO COUNTRY

The insecurity that war has brought to every one of us causes worry, depression and tiredness. We'll only get completely on top of things if we make sure of having 1st Group Sleep every night.

AUXILIARY FIRE STATION AT WORK

Whether they are in the National Services or not, nearly all women are undergoing extra nervous strain and worry these days. Those women will come through best who get the one kind of sleep that really repairs body and brain.

There are 3 Sleep Groups

3rd SLEEP GROUP

Bad sleepers, people who find it hard to go to sleep, or people who wake tired in the morning, belong to this Group. This kind of sleep drains the physical, nervous and mental powers. The cause is excess acid waste products in the blood at night — *activating* brain and nerves. Hospital tests prove Horlicks corrects this.

2nd SLEEP GROUP

People in this Group seem to sleep well enough yet feel they lack energy during the day. They get tired easily, feel "nervy," run-down. They can't concentrate. Their trouble is the same as that of people in Group 3, to a slightly lesser degree. Hospital tests prove that Horlicks overcomes this condition — ensures 1st Group Sleep.

1st SLEEP GROUP

People in this Group sleep perfectly. Even though they get only 5 or 6 hours in bed, they have plenty of energy during the day. They are never handicapped by "nerves" or tiredness. They get the right kind of sleep — that completely refreshing 1st Group Sleep which everybody should have and that Horlicks gives.

WHICH DO YOU BELONG TO?

HOW well you stand up to the strain, worry and extra work of wartime depends very largely upon what kind of sleep you get.

Scientists now tell us that all people belong to one of 3 Sleep Groups — 1st Group, 2nd Group, 3rd Group.

They say that the reason why people get "nervy," tired or run-down is because they belong to the 2nd or 3rd Sleep Groups. Their trouble is that their brain and nerves are "activated" all night by the body's excess acid waste products which accumulate in the blood.

After experimenting with many foods and drinks, doctors found that only Horlicks taken at bedtime coun eracted completely these excess acid waste products. Horlicks thus guards against Night Starvation and gives you 1st Group Sleep. Take Horlicks tonight and see how much better you feel all day.

HORLICKS A COMPLETE FOOD

Horlicks is not a drug. It is a well-balanced, nourishing food with the milk already in it. Just mix with water. Prices from 2/- at all chemists and grocers. Mixers 6d. and 1/-.

HORLICKS at bedtime gives you 1st Group Sleep

HUMANIST *advises the wife whose elderly husband has fallen in love with "the girl in the office."*

I Appeal to the "Other Woman"

"Dear Humanist, I am desperately unhappy because of my husband's association with a girl nearly thirty years his junior. . . ."

JUST another "triangle," you might say. They are so common that there's little you can do but sympathise. Yet I feel that the troubles of this "most unhappy wife" are worth investigating.

In this triangle the man must be fifty, the "other woman" a girl of twenty, the same age as his daughter.

Her preference for a married man of fifty to a single man of twenty can be explained only by deciding that she is genuinely 'infatuated."

"We have been married 23 years and there are four children," says the wife. "I could not have had a kinder or better husband—until this infatuation started!

"The affair started with their having tea at the office. Then they started going to the films together and spending Saturday afternoons in Town. It made me unhappy, especially when I could see that my husband was not happy himself.

"With the outbreak of war, the office was evacuated. My husband went to the West of England, the girl to the east.

"I hoped that would be the end of their 'affair,' but the girl writes to my husband, and has persuaded him to meet her in London for week-ends.

"The girl refuses to give him up, and he says he is doing it only to give her a little happiness, that I am being unreasonable in trying to deprive him of her company.

"He told me that it appeals to his vanity that she should be so much in love with him that she is willing to throw away her reputation, honour, everything for him.

"Many people would denounce such a man as a scoundrel, but I love him dearly, and I know all his weaknesses. I won't give him up. I keep praying that he will again become the dear man he was until this girl 'got' him.

"He is not happy. At times he wants to make up for the unhappiness he is causing, and he gives me money for chocolates, the cinema—anything that I want. It almost makes me cry to see his pathetic efforts to ease his conscience.

"Oh, if only that girl knew what misery she has caused! What sort of girl is she? What has she to gain by it? She is in a good position in a Government office, and has everything . . why, then, should she try to steal my husband?"

Of course the man is unhappy!

He must know that he is behaving like a fool, but his vanity is tickled!

He has reached a dangerous age. The period of maturity is on the point of finishing. The man is having a "last fling."

This is a fairly common phenomenon, especially with people whose earlier lives have been irreproachable. It happens to women when they discover their physical attractions are waning.

THE girl's position needs more explaining. She may be genuinely and passionately in love with this man. She may be the type of girl who adored her father and is unconsciously seeking a substitute.

More likely she is enjoying the sense of power, and would be happy if she had a dozen men at her feet.

I advise the unhappy wife to "bide a while" till her man recovers his common sense. Because she still loves him, she will be able to forgive.

Another interesting problem is raised by a young soldier who wonders whether he can safely allow his bride to go out with a former suitor.

"In pre-war days we were very gay,"

"I keep praying that my husband will again become the dear man he was until this girl 'got' him!"

he says. "Our evenings were devoted to dancing, theatre-going, kinemas, supper parties and so on. We were popular at parties and our friends always welcomed us.

"My wife is now left in loneliness with a greatly reduced income. I cannot ask her parents to pay for extra pleasures and amusements.

"Before our marriage, my wife was bothered by a man who persisted in sending her letters, flowers, chocolates, and other small gifts. She went out with him once or twice.

"I found him a courteous man to whom no exception could be taken. He was obviously in love with my wife.

"He has not been affected by the war; in fact, his financial position has probably improved a little. Now he has written to my wife offering to act as 'Prince Charming' and, to quote his words, to 'help you to pass the time away until all this horrible business is over and your husband is back.'

"He suggests an occasional visit to the theatre. My wife sent the letter to me.

"She is waiting for my approval.

"Can I trust a man who is in love with my wife not to take advantage of my being so far away? Ought I to stifle my jealousy to enable my wife to have some pleasure that I cannot now provide?"

This is a problem about which opinions will probably be equally divided. A million readers will say "yes," another million "no."

I do not think a wife's every movement must be controlled by her husband, and I believe that men and women alike have a right to freedom and happiness.

Yet my answer in this case is "no."

There may be no harm in going to a theatre with this Prince Charming, but if he is still in love with her it must be dangerous and tantalising for them.

To my way of thinking there is every likelihood of complications.

FINALLY, let us turn to a father, troubled because his nineteen-year-old daughter wants to make her own way in life.

Her mother writes to say that the girl wants to join the Land Army.

"Her father thinks it is dangerous for young girls to be in the country, far from home, and she may get into trouble.

"He has read of the flirting that goes on at night when work is finished, and this has alarmed him. Do you really think he is right to forbid her going when she has set her heart on it?"

There is danger everywhere for the girl who cannot take care of herself, but a girl of nineteen ought to be able to live her own life.

Too much supervision and protection is by no means good for anybody.

HUMANIST invites you to seek his advice when you are worried or perplexed. Address your envelope to 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, enclosing a stamped envelope for reply. £1 1s. is paid for each letter published.

To preserve her good health

Mother's Mother takes Beechams Pills

Millions of the cheeriest folk take Beecham's Pills regularly. No wonder they keep free from sick headaches and digestive upsets. Take them yourself. Beechams Pills are purely vegetable, gentle, natural, effective, reliable. Obtainable everywhere.

Worth a Guinea a Box

Here's Your 10-Minute Wits Test

IN each of the prize *Bullets* below, one of the winning words is incompletely printed—dots indicate number of missing letters.

As a ten-minute Wits Test, see if you can fill in that blank in each prize effort.

For your answers consult page 35, where you will see the actual completed *Bullet* which has brought a useful war time cheque to a JOHN BULL reader this week.

Remember—each of these prize efforts which you can successfully complete proves that *you* can build a prize *Bullet* for yourself.

In World To-day
Marvels—And Mars' E . . . s.

Heard In The Black-out
"Sorry! Sorry! Sorry! T . . l"

Winston's Cigar
F . . e At *Both* Ends!

"What! No walkies to-night?" barks Gyp

DOES your dog get enough exercise? Is he a 'plus' dog? Black-outs will mean serious lack of exercise; rationing is bound to mean an ill-balanced diet. Unless you take immediate steps to counteract these two facts, your dog's health will be upset.

Regular conditioning with Bob Martin's Condition Powders is now more necessary than ever. One Bob Martin's once a day will rid your dog's blood of the toxic impurities set up by restricted exercise and faulty feeding. Let Bob Martin's make your dog a 'plus' dog by maintaining a rich, *pure* blood supply. These famous little powders will keep him free from the ills and hazards of the coming winter and make him a happy and grateful companion in the long days (and nights) to come. It's a small request with a big return. *From all chemists and dog-food shops, 6d. for packet of 9 and 1/- for carton of 21 powders.*

FREE BOOKLET Your problems of dog management are all solved in "How to care for Your Dog in Wartime." Free on application to Bob Martin Ltd., 60F Union St., Southport, Lancs.

Bob Martin's

Appearance still counts!

Eve shampoo keeps your hair smart and lovely

Housework or office work all day, National Service at night. It doesn't leave much time for looking after one's appearance, does it? But, war or no war, you can't neglect your hair, and you'll feel so much happier if you know that it's silken and lovely, and looking its very best.

Eve Shampoo does the job in double-quick time. It saves time in actual washing because it brings out all the dirt and grease in a moment, and it saves time in rinsing because it's soapless and doesn't cling to your hair. That's the reason Eve leaves your hair so gloriously alive and vital—there's no ugly soap-scum to obscure its natural lustre.

And, of course, Eve saves you money, because it costs only 2d—and that's a very big point in these days.

only 2d.

EVC 42-172-38 JOSEPH WATSON & SONS LTD., LEEDS

Do you know?

Yes? or No?

IS IT TRUE all women need IRON for Beauty?

Yes, it is true. An iron-starved woman is betrayed by her looks. Her hair is dull and lifeless, her eyes lack sparkle, her skin is sallow and blemished. Her lips are pale, her carriage limp and listless. She probably suffers from indigestion and 'nerves,' and never looks nor feels really well.

You cannot have red lips, a rosy complexion, bright eyes, and lovely hair, if your blood is not rich and vigorous. You cannot have rich, vigorous blood, if you are iron-starved. All women are liable to iron-starvation, and that is why every woman who values her looks and health should take a course of IRON 'JELLOIDS' every now and then.

Are YOU Iron-starved?

Most women are iron-starved, but do not know it. Not until they have taken a course of IRON 'JELLOIDS' do they realise how necessary iron-strength is for the preservation of health and beauty.

There is only one remedy for iron-starvation. That is IRON, and STILL MORE IRON. The simplest, quickest, and most pleasant way to give yourself the iron you are starving for, is to take IRON 'JELLOIDS' three times a day at meal-times. After a few weeks on IRON 'JELLOIDS' you'll be amazed at the difference, not only in your appearance, but in your health and vitality. IRON 'JELLOIDS' will strengthen your nerves and increase your resistance to infection. You'll eat well, sleep well, enjoy your play and make light of your work.

The 3/- size lasts 36 days, the 1/3 size 10 days. Of all chemists and stores.

Iron Jelloids

For WOMEN: No. 2 For MEN: No. 2A (containing quinine) For CHILDREN: No. 1

fortify you with IRON-strength to overcome

Weakness—Exhausted Nerves—Lack of Energy—Liability to Colds—Breathlessness—Palpitation—Poor Appetite Weak Digestion—Headaches—Pallor Falling Hair—Pimples—Brittle Nails

The word 'Jelloids' is registered. No proprietary right is claimed in the method of manufacture.

COUPON for FREE BOOK

To The Iron Jelloid Co., Ltd., (Dept. J 91), Watford, Herts.

Please send me your new free booklet "NON-STARVATION, the Thief of Health and Strength."

Name.....

Address.....

J.B. 9/12/39

Post unsealed under ½d. stamp. Use BLOCK letters.

CONSTIPATION KEEPS A CHILD BACK

Unless the bowels move regularly your child will be weakly, peevish, dull and stunted. So if your child is constipated, attend to it without delay. But be careful what you give, because purging weakens a child and leaves the bowels more bound than ever.

Doctors and nurses everywhere advise 'California Syrup of Figs,' because they know that to cure constipation you must use a liquid laxative so that you can regulate the dose as the bowels act naturally. You should never give strong purgatives to children.

Give your children a regular weekly dose of 'California Syrup of Figs' and see how they love it, how it helps them to grow and thrive. Be sure to get 'California Syrup of Figs' brand. Obtainable everywhere at 1/3 and 2/6 (economy size).

IMPORTANT TO WOMEN—

'California Syrup of Figs' is also the ideal remedy for constipation in your own case, since it ensures complete bowel action without the risk of disturbing functional regularity, which often happens when strong laxatives are taken.

TO AVOID FLATULENCE

AND PAIN AFTER MEALS

You get burning pain and distressing wind after meals because your stomach is always too acid. Food can't digest and your stomach is tortured in the attempt. Why endure this mealtime misery? 'Milk of Magnesia' Tablets will stop it this very day. They relieve acidity and sweeten a sour stomach at once. The stomach starts digesting your food right away and finishes its work with perfect ease. You feel nothing—no heartburn, no flatulence, not a twinge of your old stomach pain. If you suffer from acute gastric attacks, 'Milk of Magnesia' brand Tablets will stop them in five minutes. Try them to-day! Neat flat boxes for the pocket, 6d. and 1/-. Also family sizes, 2/- and 3/6. Obtainable everywhere.

MILK OF MAGNESIA TABLETS

'Milk of Magnesia' is the trade mark of Phillips' preparation of Magnesia.

WAKE UP YOUR LIVER BILE

without Calomel—and you'll jump out of bed in the morning full of vim and vigour

The liver should pour out two pints of liquid bile into your bowels daily. If this bile is not flowing freely, your food doesn't digest. It just decays in the bowels. Gas bloats up your stomach. You get constipated. Your whole system is poisoned and you feel sour, sunk, and the world looks punk.

Laxatives help a little, but a mere bowel movement doesn't get at the cause. It takes those good old Carters Brand Little Liver Pills to get these two pints of bile flowing freely and make you feel "up and up." Harmless, gentle, yet amazing in making bile flow freely. Ask for Carters Brand Little Liver Pills. Stubbornly refuse anything else. 1/3 and 3/-.

TO REMOVE HAIR —WITHOUT Razors Electric Needles or Smelly Depilatories

An amazing discovery of Science. Dissolves away superfluous hair completely in 3 minutes—leaves skin soft and smooth as velvet. No ugly stubble like the razor leaves—no coarse regrowth. Simply spread on this dainty sweet-smelling cream—wash off with plain water—the hair is gone. This priceless discovery is sold everywhere under the trademark New 'VEET.' So quick, clean and easy to use. End your superfluous hair troubles for ever with New 'VEET.' At all Chemists, 1/3 and 2/6. (Trial Size 6d.)

FIRST-AID REMEDY for EVERY HOME

In emergencies, when accidents like cuts, burns, scalds or wounds happen in a flash, you need quickly a soothing, healing antiseptic remedy, easy-to-use, certain in results. That remedy is D.D.D. Brand Prescription. Because it is a liquid, this powerful antiseptic gets right down to the trouble, destroys harmful germs, prevents septic poisoning and quickly starts healing along normal lines. In cases of burns and scalds D.D.D. Prescription allays pain, prevents blistering and heals without a scar. Keep a bottle of D.D.D. Prescription always handy in the home, as well as in the air-raid shelter. Not only will it help you in emergencies, but it is the best of all remedies for all forms of skin troubles, such as eczema, dermatitis, ulcers, boils, sore tired feet, bad legs, etc. D.D.D. Prescription is sold by chemists everywhere, price 1/3 per bottle.

FREE SAMPLE OFFER. A free sample bottle is offered to all who wish to try D.D.D. Prescription. Send your name and address on a 1d. postcard to D.D.D. Laboratories (Dept. M.N.9), Fleet Lane, London, E.C.4.

D.D.D. PRESCRIPTION

Voice of the People

LESS of this "Let's share out the colonies" bunk.

Having been born in a British possession and visited most overseas stations in turn, this talk about our building an Empire on a policy of grab is sheer humbug.

We're fools not to correct it.

Some places now flying the British flag were taken over as derelict from colonial aspirants of yore.

We have built the Empire with kindness, thoughtfulness and constant care for the people.

There have been scandals, but they must be laid at the door of commercial adventures. To blame British administration is silly.—H. T. J., Gosfield Street, Great Portland Street, W.

Bachelor's Moan

MEMBERS of Parliament are made to weep about the plight of single women—but not a writer, not a speaker, not an individual, will say a word for the unemployed single man living on 17s. a week. He is treated with disdain.

I don't exonerate JOHN BULL. Here is one class you have never fought for.—Walter Rushworth, Parkway, Regent's Park, London, N.W.1.

HAVEN'T WE JUST!

A Pat on the Back

AN American spending a few weeks in London, I have a word for JOHN BULL from Uncle Sam.

You're telling yourself that you are not doing a lot in this war, yet everybody I meet seems to have a specific job in hand, and seems to be getting on with it without any fancy stuff.

The way you are carrying on without any mention of war—except for a joking reference here and there—is about as fine a display of courage as I have seen.

There is a determination about Britain that my people at home would hardly credit. Uncle Sam doesn't hear about it. Uncle Adolf may not have heard yet, but I have an idea that he is going to.—Kenneth Griffiths, Lea Bridge Road, Leyton, London, E.10.

Food Value Problem

RATION strong drink, not for teetotal reasons, but because the grain and sugar used in strong drink loses its food value through fermentation.

We can't afford to lose any part of the nutritive value of our foodstuffs in days such as these.—Mr. A. Dobbin, Herman Hill, Wanstead, E.11.

We submitted this letter to a dietician, who replied: "It is true that grain and sugar lose energy-giving properties, but they create a new product with energy-giving quantities of its own. There is certainly not less food value in a pint of beer than in the products from which it is made. If we are going to stop the processing of foods, we'd better begin by eating meat and vegetables raw!"

Old Soldiers

LOOKING from her office window to watch a battalion of troops march through the town, my daughter saw a soldier sidle out of the marching ranks, become a spectator for a second, sidestep into the "Horse and Groom" and emerge a moment later wiping his lips.

Racing down the road, he fell into the rear rank again with the calmness of a man who had fallen back to fasten his bootlace.—Mrs. F. I. Burton, Old Lodge Lane, Purley.

Since Crimean days this has been known as "dodging the column."

Nicely, Thank You!

WHEN the Nazi aircraft crossed over Wales last week our local warden, anxious for an old woman's safety, said, "Come with me and I will see you all right."

As he turned towards his dug-out, however, the old stalwart replied, "Oh, it's quite all right. I can see quite well here, thank you."—S. T., N. Wales.

Pay by Telegraph

INDIANS working in our merchant ships send most of their meagre earnings home to their wives. Before the war they sent the money by air mail for sixpence. That is now denied to them.

So, afraid to send money by post because they know the dangers existing at sea, they pay from 10s. to 15s. to send, by telegraph order, the one pound or two pounds earned each voyage.

Surely the Post Office can help them.—S. F. Denton, Commercial Road, E.

Trade union enquiries show that in some cases these men are spending more than half their earnings in telegraph fees. They are risking their lives for the Empire. Something must be done for them.

14-Year-Old Speaks Out

I AM writing to you because this is really not fair. I am 14 years old, and a year ago I won a scholarship. Since then I have been top of the class in examinations.

I was evacuated because I wanted to continue my education, and then mother was asked to pay six shillings a week for me.

Well, this was our position. We had mortgaged our little sweet shop for £40, agreeing to pay 10s. a week back until we had paid £50. It left us very, very poor.

Mother said she hadn't got the six shillings a week, but they said, "Because you don't owe rates or rent and haven't any county court summonses against you we cannot help you."

She told them about the mortgage.

"Well, the interest is sixpence a week," they said, "so we'll say it costs sixpence more to keep your daughter. That still leaves you seven shillings a week."

"It doesn't leave us a penny," mother said. "What about that ten shillings a week repayment?"

To that they replied, "That doesn't count. It is a private arrangement."

I shall have to go home again to Leeds now. My education will have to be ruined. All I have worked hard for is lost. My crime is that my mummie is poor—and there's supposed to be no disgrace in that.—*Miss J. Wray, Woodhouse-street, Leeds, 6.*

This is YOUR page—a weekly opportunity for readers to tell the world their news and views.

We pay 10s. 6d. for each letter published and an extra 10s. 6d. if we use your own photograph to illustrate a letter.

The address is: "Voice of the People," 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

By 'Poolex'

I NOW introduce a further refinement into my "Form and Reliability" Guide. Sufficient regional games have been played for me to be able to make a distinction between "home" and "away" form.

The Guide shows how teams have fared compared with what the experts predicted.

Teams producing results expected, even if they lose consistently, are classed as dependable. Some teams have been playing above expectation; others have been disappointing.

There are, also, real "coupon wreckers," the teams that are above form one week, below the next, which must be classed as erratic, and should be avoided.

In the Guide, the home and away form of all the teams is shown by the following symbols:—

D = Dependable team. E = Erratic team. B = Playing better than expected. W = Playing worse than expected.

FORM AND RELIABILITY GUIDE

South A	H.	A.
Arsenal	D	W
Charlton	D	D
Clapton O.	D	D
Crystal P.	W	E
Millwall	E	W
Norwich	B	B
Southend	B	D
Spurs	D	D
West Ham	E	E
Watford	E	D

South B	H.	A.
Aldershot	B	D
Bournem'th	B	D
Brentford	D	W
Brighton	E	D
Chelsea	D	E
Fulham	D	E
Portsm'th	D	D
Q.P.R.	E	D
Reading	D	E
S'th'pton	E	D

Western	H.	A.
Chester	E	B
Crewe	D	D
Everton	D	E
Liverpool	D	E
Man. C.	W	D
Man. U.	D	D
N. Brighton	D	D
Port Vale	D	D
Stockport	D	D
Stoke	D	E
Tranmere	D	D
Wrexham	E	D

South-Western	H.	A.
Bristol C.	W	D
Bristol R.	W	B
Cardiff	W	B
Newport	D	B
Plymouth	D	B
Swansea	W	E
Swindon	D	B
Torquay	W	D

East Midland	H.	A.
Barnsley	D	B
Ches'field	D	B
Doncaster	E	D
Grimsby	D	W
Lincoln	D	W
Mansfield	D	D
Notts Co.	D	D
Notts F.	W	D
Rotherham	B	D
Sheff. Un.	D	E
Sheff. W.	W	D

Midland	H.	A.
Birm'ham	E	D
Coventry	D	D
Leicester	D	D
Luton	D	W
North'pton	B	D
Walsall	D	D
W. Brom.	D	E
Wolves	D	W

North-Eastern	H.	A.
Bradford	B	E
Bradford C.	D	D
Darlington	E	B
Halifax	W	D
Hartlepools	D	E
Huddersfield	D	E
Hull	W	W
Leeds	D	D
Middlesbro	D	W
Newcastle	W	B
York	B	D

North-Western	H.	A.
Accrington	E	D
Barrow	E	D
Blackburn	D	W
Blackpool	D	D
Bolton	D	W
Burnley	E	D
Bury	D	B
Carlisle	D	D
Oldham	D	D
Preston	D	E
Rochdale	E	D
Southport	D	D

Scottish West	H.	A.
Airdrie	E	D
Albion R.	D	B
Ayr	E	D
Celtic	W	W
Clyde	E	E
Dumb'ton	E	D
Hamilton	D	B
Kilm'nock	D	E
Morton	B	D
Motherw'll	D	E
Partick	W	D
Queen's P.	E	D
Queen of S.	D	B
Rangers	D	D
St. Mirren	E	D
Th'd Lan.	D	D

Scottish East	H.	A.
Aberdeen	W	E
Alloa	D	B
Arbroath	W	D
Cowdenb'th	D	D
Dundee	E	W
Dundee U.	E	D
Dunfermline	B	B
East Fife	D	B
Falkirk	D	D
Hearts	W	D
Hibernian	W	E
King's P.	E	D
Raith R.	E	D
St. Bernards	D	B
St. Johnstone	D	E
Stenh'semuir	E	D

BRITAIN'S FIRST-AID

Famous for 90 Years for

CUTS, BURNS SEPTIC WOUNDS

MOST IMPORTANT to have an Ointment for wounds in your First-Aid Outfit. Doubly important that it should act QUICKLY—and so prevent septic matter forming or spreading.

LION OINTMENT is famous for quick action. Cleanses thoroughly before it heals. Relieves pain. Safe even for infants.

From Chemists, 1/3, 3/-, 5/-, per box. Or send P.O. to Edwin Burgess, Ltd., 39, Gray's Inn Road, London, W.C.1.

1/3

LION OINTMENT Never a Better!

Keep a box always handy for relief of BOILS, WHITLOWS, ABSCESSES, CHILBLAINS, etc.

CATARRH Sufferers

Almost instantly, your breathing becomes easy again, your raw, irritated nose cooled and soothed, your dull, aching head clear as a bell. Simply put a few drops of Vick-Vatronol up each nostril. You can *feel* the tingling medication spreading swiftly through the nasal passages, clearing away mucus, relieving irritation, reducing swollen tissues, helping to drain the sinuses. And tests by doctors show that, used in time, it *prevents* many colds.

At chemists, 2/6, or send 2d. in stamps for a trial bottle to "Vick" (Dept. M.), 215, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E.1.

VICK-VATRONOL BRAND NASAL MEDICAMENT

FOR HOARSENESS GO SUCK A ZUBE

3d and 6d in Flat tins

taking the rough from the smooth—the EASY way!

EASY STAYS MOIST SO MUCH LONGER

No beard's so tough that Lever's Easy can't soften it—and *keep* it soft! That's where ordinary quick-drying lathers fail—they dry up half through the shave, leaving the blade to hack at stiffening bristles.

But Easy's lather *stays* moist. It keeps the beard soft until every single hair has been smoothly, comfortably removed.

E 301-172

A *LEVER* PRODUCT

When you buy goods that are advertised in "John Bull"—you get the Very Best!

The "John Bull" Guarantee appears on page 5.

MECCANO

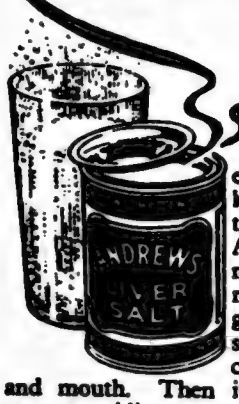
ENGINEERING FOR BOYS

The British way of enjoying the black-out nights

Ask your dealer for a free catalogue of Meccano products, or write direct to Dept. 37, Meccano Ltd., Binns Road, Liverpool 13.

No Increase in Prices.

Excuse me—to keep fit Inner Cleanliness comes first!



Inner Cleanliness—more than anything else—will help you to keep fit and cheerful these strenuous times. And for Inner Cleanliness take Andrews regularly. Each sparkling glass cleanses the entire system. First, Andrews cleans the tongue and mouth. Then it settles the stomach, corrects acidity and the indigestion caused by overwork, nerves and worry. Andrews also tones up the liver. And finally, to complete your Inner Cleanliness, Andrews gently clears the bowels and gradually corrects constipation. Take Andrews regularly, as often as you need it. 4ozs. 9d., 8ozs. 1/4.

For Inner Cleanliness be regular with your

ANDREWS LIVER SALT

(52c)

P.S. Don't forget to look into John Bull's Shop Window—you always find bargains there.

See pages 2 & 3.

Sprains, Bruises

PAIN fades out as SLOANS soaks in

There's nothing like Sloans for soothing away the pain and reducing the swelling of a bad sprain or a bruise. If you can't walk or stand without your ankles swelling and feet throbbing with pain the relief you'll get from Sloans will amaze you. Sloans stimulates the flow of fresh healing blood through the painful part, thus relieving congestion and inflammation, banishing the pain and restoring strength and suppleness.

Here's the Pain Where's the SLOANS?

For 50 years Sloans has been famed for its power to KILL PAIN. Apply Sloans just where you feel the pain for quick relief from

RHEUMATISM, LUMBAGO, SCIATICA, NEURITIS, BACKACHE, SPRAINS, CRAMP, CHEST COLDS, MUSCULAR AND NERVE PAINS

Get a bottle of Sloans Liniment today. Sold by all Chemists 1/9 per bottle.

SLOANS *Liniment* KILLS PAIN

Amused at the stripling's impudence, the big fisherman stepped forward prepared to teach the gipsy minstrel a lesson. He raised a threatening, ham-like fist . . . .

Jem Mace, the wandering gipsy violinist, leaves the open road to become

BARE-KNUCKLE CHAMPION

DOWN by the moonlit water's edge on Yarmouth's quayside, a handsome gipsy lad, dark-haired and swarthy, sat with an old violin nestled beneath his chin

One brown hand drew the bow slowly across the strings and the fiddle came to life, bursting into a wild, sweet song.

Presently the door of a neighbouring saloon, swinging open, threw a bar of light across the cobbles, and three drunken fishermen, husky fellows and ripe for any sort of trouble, came swaggering noisily down the quay.

In no mood for music, one cursed the gipsy fiddler

"Stow that row, yer landlubber!" he roared; but the lad, lost in his music, turned a contemptuously deaf ear.

Enraged by this silence, the sailor suddenly seized his violin and splintered it under his heel.

For a moment the gipsy stared in dumb dismay. His dark eyes blazed with fury, and, throwing aside the useless fiddle bow, he rose slowly to his feet.

The fisherman who had smashed his precious violin stood a full half a head taller. His back was as broad as a barn door, but the Romany lad did not hesitate.

"You'll pay for that," he said quietly, and raised his fists in a challenging attitude. Amused at this stripling's impudence, the big fisherman stepped forward prepared to teach him a lesson.

He raised a threatening, ham-like fist, and the next second he was flat on the cobbles!

Something that felt like a sledge hammer had struck him between the eyes, and, shaking his head, in dazed bewilderment, he hauled himself to his feet, bent on revenge.

Head down, he charged, but the gipsy lad easily evaded the bully's clumsy rush. The slim, brown hands that had conjured such sweet music from the old violin, now doubled into hard fists, beat a swift tattoo upon his opponent's head and body.

For two minutes the fisherman stood his ground, but, big as he was, he could not hold out against such stunning blows. Sadly bruised he turned tail and ran.

Slowly and sadly now that the first blaze of anger had died, the lad sank to his knees and began gathering the fragments of his precious fiddle.

As he knelt there with heavy heart, he felt a touch on his shoulder, and discovered that a tall, well-dressed stranger was at his side.

"That was stoutly done indeed, my lad," said the grand gentleman. "You've fought in the ring, I'll wager?"

The gipsy lad shook his head.

"YOU'VE not!" exclaimed the gentleman. "Then you're wasting a useful pair of maulers. There's the makings of a champion in you."

He fumbled in his pocket and produced a sovereign.

"Here's something towards a new violin," he said, pressing the coin into the gipsy's hand. "And don't forget what I've told you. You can earn money with that punch of yours!"

Keen though his eye for fistic talent must have been, I don't suppose this anonymous philanthropist imagined that he was talking to a future world champion.

Yet he was.

The gipsy minstrel was Jem Mace, and he was destined to become not only the champion of his day, but also reign among the great knuckle fighters.

A man to be remembered among the real giants of the ring.

Perhaps you are thinking that I have chosen a strange way to introduce him, but on this day began the transformation of Jem Mace, from wandering minstrel to pugilist.

But for his encounter with the ruffian who smashed his violin, Jem might never have become famous. Until then he had never raised his fists in anger to any man.

A little later he left the open road and, adopting the picturesque title of the "Swaffham Gipsy," tried his luck in the prize-ring.

Success came swiftly.

ALTHOUGH he was small-built and weighed less than eleven stone, his open-air life had left him tough as teak. One opponent after another fell before his hammer fists.

Mace won the heavy-weight title from Sam Hurst, the "Stalybridge Infant," in 1861, but for thrills and drama there was nothing to equal his terrific fight with Tom King in the following year.

For forty-three rounds these stalwarts battered and pummelled each other on the green turf outside Godstone.

Although for most of the time Jem's right arm was almost useless, he still managed to best his man.

Every advantage was with King.

He was taller, broader and heavier, a giant of 6 ft. 2 in., with a drooping black moustache and a wallop like a mule's kick.

Straight as a pine, his long left held rigidly before him, King advanced, but Mace, knowing that he could not hope to match him in reach or strength, adopted less orthodox methods.

A. W. Helliwell

introduces a new fighter among his "Giants of the Ring"

Light and nimble as a kitten at play, he danced in and out, ducking and weaving to avoid King's huge maulers, crouching so low at times that his dark head was on a level with the taller man's knees.

Puzzled by these baffling tactics, Tom bided his time until, seeing an opening, he drove his right hard to Mace's mouth, splitting his knuckles on the fighting gipsy's teeth.

It was a terrible punch.

"Bravo Tom," roared King's backers. "First blood to you, lad."

Then a pelting downpour of rain turned the firm turf into a slippery quagmire.

Robbed of the advantage of his sure-footed speed, Jem was at Tom's mercy, and again and yet again the giant's bare fists crashed to their mark with stunning, sickening force.

Valiantly though he fought back, Jem could do little. The cup of his misfortunes, already brimming, overflowed when he slipped on the treacherous ground and fell with his right arm twisted beneath him.

White-hot stabs of pain were shooting through it as he walked back to his corner. Knowing that Tom would make short work of him if he guessed the truth, he concealed his plight.

Now, with only one hand to use against Tom's relentless onslaughts, he took even more terrible punishment.

But he would not quit.

So they fought on, and presently Tom King's deep chest began to rise and fall, Tom's bellows were going!

If he could hold out just a little longer he might still snatch a desperate victory.

As the bigger man tired, Jem, drawing on the amazing reserves of stamina stored in that compact, nut-brown body of his, went at him hammer and tongs, and then, setting his teeth to keep from crying out in his agony, swung his injured right to Tom's chin.

Down in the mud crashed Tom.

When he faced the gipsy lad after a breather, he charged in a bull-like rush, realising that he must stake all on the chance of landing a finishing punch before his limbs collapsed beneath him.

Still sick with the pain in his wrenched arm, Jem thrust it out, rigid as a steel bar, to meet him.

It was—lucky for Jem!—the last punch of that epic battle.

Tom King, taking it clean on the chin, went down like a ninepin.

And the sporting gentry crowded about young Jem to shake him by the hand. He had proved himself a doughty champion.

NEXT WEEK:
THE BOSTON TAR BABY.

BACKACHE

Urinary Disorders Rheumatic Pains *"Every Picture tells a Story"*

are common signs of

Weak Kidneys

STRONG, healthy kidney action is vitally important during these anxious days. Nobody can work properly if the kidney filters are weak or congested and fail to relieve the blood of surplus water and harmful wastes.

Don't neglect the warning symptoms! Take Doans brand Backache Kidney Pills! This up-to-date kidney medicine strengthens, invigorates and flushes out the kidneys so that they effectively purify your blood and give you permanent relief from pain. Thousands of men and women have thanked Doans Pills for recovery from backache, rheumatic pains, urinary disorders, bladder weakness, getting up at nights, swollen ankles and limbs, dizzy attacks, lumbago and other kidney ailments.

1/3, 3/-, 5/-. Ask your Chemist for

DOANS
Backache Kidney Pills

AN EXCELLENT RECIPE FOR THE FAMILY COLDS

There is no need for the family cold to "go the round" if you make up this good old-fashioned recipe and keep it handy for emergencies.

Take 3 to 4 ounces of sugar* and mix with ¼ pint of hot water (not boiling), then add 1 ounce of Parmint (double strength) which you buy at your own chemist, stir until dissolved and allow to cool. Put your mixture in a bottle, give it a final shake and your cough and cold syrup is ready. Parmint Syrup recipe is the best family remedy for coughs and colds—particularly good for children because they like its pleasant taste. Dosage: Adults, 1 tablespoonful; Children, 1 dessertspoonful—four times per day. Cut out this paragraph to remind you to buy an ounce of Parmint (Double Strength) so that you can make up the recipe to-day.

**If you are short of sugar use 3 teaspoonfuls of Golden Syrup or 3 of Black Treacle.*

IF YOU HAVE PILES

IF you are a victim of Piles, don't despair, relief is at hand! *Germoloids*, the wonderful new internal treatment based on the remarkable healing power of Germolene brand Ointment, will bring relief almost immediately! They work while you sleep. They stop smarting, itching and "burning." They soothe the inflammation. They heal the tender, broken tissues and reduce swelling. Thousands upon thousands are daily finding remarkable ease, even after as long as 25 years' suffering! Experience how wonderful it is to be free from that constant nagging, indescribably tormenting affliction! Try *Germoloids* TODAY!

Germoloids
From Chemists, 1/3 per box

Which Is Your LUCKY SHADE of Face Powder

9 out of 10 women use the wrong shade of face powder

The wrong shade of powder gives you a horrid, hard "made-up" look—makes you appear years older. The only way to find *your* right shade is to try one colour on one side of your face and one on the other. Make this test to-day with the new exciting shades of Poudre Tokalon. These new "skin-tone" shades are blended by the aid of a new machine—the "Chromascope". Like a magic eye it selects colours with unfailing accuracy. No more powdered "made-up" look. Powder which *matches* the skin so perfectly it seems to become part of it. Poudre Tokalon is blended by a patent process with "Mousse of Cream." This makes it stay on all day even in wind and rain. Try Poudre Tokalon to-day. See what an amazing improvement it makes in your complexion.

That means a lot . . . from a pipe-smoker at Christmas time. So many men enjoy the rich, ripe flavour of Player's 'Digger' all the year round that . . . no wonder this fine Empire tobacco is so much in demand when the gift season is here.

PLAYER'S

DIGGER

TOBACCO

P.D.78

HEALTH news

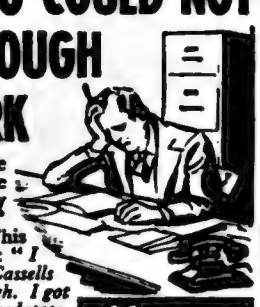
If nerve suffering is your trouble read these two remarkable cases, which show you how to overcome your weakness and make a good recovery.

HOUSEHOLD DUTIES BEYOND HER

The woman who wrote this letter gives us her full permission to publish it because, she says: "*The trouble with my nerves is now a thing of the past.*" She writes in simple gratitude: "*I am writing to tell you how I have always suffered with my nerves, and my household duties seemed almost beyond me sometimes. In this state I was advised to try Dr. Cassells Tablets, and believe me, after the second dose I began to feel more cheerful. I can now get along fine with my work, things are more pleasant in every way and thanks to Dr. Cassells I feel like a different woman.*" Mrs. R., South Wales.

Now— Gets along fine, things are more pleasant in every way!

MAN WHO COULD NOT GET THROUGH HIS WORK



The strain of life in times like these becomes doubly hard when 'nerves' sap all energy. This young man writes: "*I cannot praise Dr. Cassells Tablets highly enough. I got into a terribly depressed state, suffered awful headaches, with loss of sleep. The result was a heavy tired feeling, and I could not get through my work without a terrific effort. Since taking Dr. Cassells I have felt like a different man and full of energy.*" Mr. H. S., Derbyshire.

Now— He is full of energy!

Feed your Nerves with

Dr. CASSELLS BRAND TABLETS

—AND YOU WILL

EAT BETTER!

SLEEP BETTER!

FEEL BETTER!

1/3, 3/- and 5/-. Trial size 6d.

The Great Nerve Tonic and Body Builder

JOHN BULL
FREE AIR RAID INSURANCE REGISTRATION FORM

SIGN TO-DAY

JOHN BULL

Hand this Form to Your Newsagent

To (Name of Newsagent).....

Address .....

.....

Please deliver or reserve JOHN BULL for me weekly until further notice.

Signature .....

Address .....

.....

.....

Date _____/ .....

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY.

J.B. 9/12/39.

CUT HERE

POST THIS FORM TO

"John Bull," Registration Department, 122, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

I have sent an Order Form to my Newsagent for the regular weekly delivery of JOHN BULL. Please register me as a regular reader.

.....

Reader's Signature.

Age.....

Address .....

.....

.....

Name and Address of Newsagent.....

.....

.....

Use ½d. stamp. Don't seal envelope. A Certificate setting out the full Benefits and Conditions and certifying registration will be sent if ½d stamped addressed envelope is enclosed for return.

PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY. J.B. 9/12/39.

ASTHMA

CATARRH, CHEST & LUNG TROUBLES

Try my wonder cure FREE. Just as I have given new Health to thousands of sufferers, so I want to cure you too: Amazing success has attended my Romany Herb Treatment for Chest and Lung Troubles. Do not wait another day: Accept my offer and prove this Miracle Remedy yourself.

FREE *Send only 3d. to cover postage and packing to—*

PETULENGRO'S ROMANY REMEDIES (Dept. A.12)

PURE WELL HOUSE PUREWELL WANTS

SKIN DISEASES

Miraculously Cured by HERBAL TREATMENT

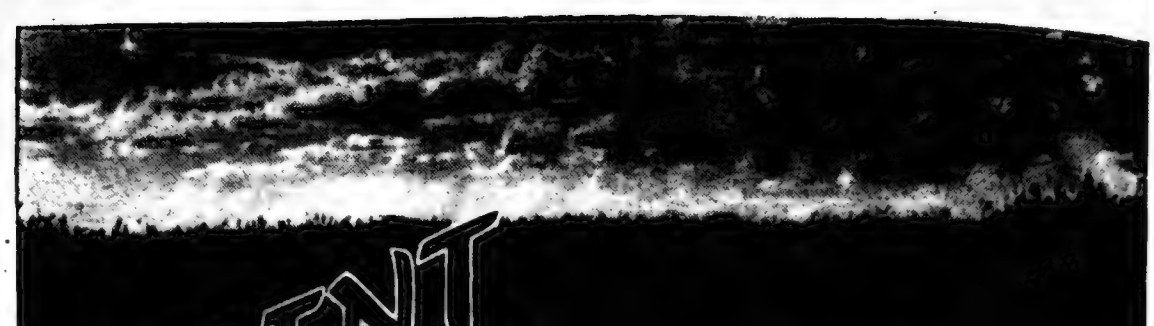
Thousands cured during the last 50 years when other treatments have failed. Eczema, Psoriasis and other skin troubles banished like magic. Write for FREE BOOK and convincing testimony.

J. ROBINSON & SONS (BRADFORD), LTD., 11, KURRE HOUSE, BRADFORD.

War Time Story by Reader A. Gordon

Wood Street, Kings Lynn, Norfolk

A PRESENT FROM HITLER



Hitler's sinister canister of death was washed up on the lonely marshes of the Fen Country, beloved of Norfolk's wildfowlers

BILL was the first to notice it when he was so far away that it looked no bigger than an orange.

"A captive balloon," he said excitedly. "Perhaps a German. Perhaps it has broken away from Berlin."

After we had raced a hundred yards through the shallow water of some East Coast marshes, Fred had a guess at it.

"It's something that's broken away from a ship," he said. "Perhaps there's a wreck out there."

It was left to me to discover what that sinister-looking greeny-grey object really was. I noticed the mushroom-like stubs jutting out here and there. I guessed the truth in a flash.

"Stop!" I shouted, so imperatively that Fred fell over in the effort to halt himself. "It's a mine. It's death to touch it!"

And my two friends, companions of so many scores of week-end wildfowling expeditions on these lonely marshes that the King knows and loves so well, could only echo, "A mine."

Our eyes searched the sea. Not a funnel, not a sail in sight.

We thought of proud ships that even that week had been sent to the sea-bottom by such greasy, deadly-looking objects as this. Of women struggling to save babies, of men trying to save women, and so many men and women alike unable to save themselves.

Then we turned back towards our houseboat, where, for the remainder of what should have been a happy week-end we were unable to forget that canister of death.

A WEEK went by.

Every day brought news of more ships mined and sunk, and somehow the tragedies seemed much nearer to our own door.

Then we found ourselves down on the marshes again.

We were told in the "local" that the mine was still there, but it was now unable to harm man or ship.

This monster of the deep, more dreadful than any creature ever created by superstitious sailors, had been bereft of its claws, its fangs—what you will.

Admiralty men had been down the previous day. Everybody in the bar had seen them. One man had been warned away by them as they worked on the deadly projections that made the mine look so much more sinister.

"They've gone back to London," said one fellow, lowering his glass. "Clever-looking youngsters. I wouldn't like *their* job, would you?"

I don't remember which of the three of us first suggested that we could now go out to make detailed examination of the mine.

It was inevitable.

We were three young men. We had all the inquisitiveness of youth.

So we found ourselves looking at it from close quarters, touching it with a timorous finger-tip, and then, ever growing bolder, giving it a push.

"What'll they do with it now?" I asked.

"Leave it to rust away, I expect," said Fred.

"Leave it until old scrap gets so scarce that it'll be worth collecting," vouchsafed Bill.

I laughed at that idea.

Transporting that ugly four-feet high mass of iron through miles of puddles and swamps for the few shillings it would be worth as scrap!

The idea was ridiculous.

And so the suggestion was made that we should anchor it and then bury it.

"Perhaps the Admiralty fellows should have done it themselves," said Fred. "Perhaps they'd get into a spot of trouble if they knew in London that they hadn't. Yes, let's bury it."

It didn't take us long to get a hammer, a long stake, a crowbar and a length of chain from the houseboat.

Then we began our job.

Anchoring the mine didn't take us long. With the aid of our crowbar we rolled it over and over across the mud.

Sometimes it bumped into little hollows with sickening squelches.

Into the biggest dip of all, which we picked as the best anchorage available, it fell with a thud.

"How'd you like to be doing this to a mine that hadn't been made harmless?" I asked.

"Blimey!" said Fred.

Bill rolled his eyes in mock horror.

To show my complete lack of respect for it, I gave the canister of death a whack with the crowbar, finishing up by kicking it till my toe ached.

Deep into the mud we drove our stake, and then we sent our chain clanking over the mine.

We had to hammer links of the chain together so that the anchorage would be secure. We did that on the sides of the mine, and the clanks that resulted went echoing across the marshes.

Then, tired out, we made off to the "local," just as keen to tell the general company what we had done as we had been to undertake the task.

We entered the bar and threw our crowbar down with a crash.

A special constable was talking.

Although our story was bursting from us we didn't like to interrupt.

"Yes, I've just heard from them," he was saying. "The Admiralty's sending 'em down again to-morrow. Yes, they're the same three lads as came down to inspect the mine, but this time they're going to make it harmless.

"They might even decide to blow it up as it stands, of course. It won't want a very big bump, I should think, if they don't do it by electricity."

THE landlord looked towards us.

"Was one of you going to say something?" he asked politely.

"Yes," I said, struggling to keep my voice on an even keel. "Yes. I was going to ask you for a double whisky."

"And one for me," gasped Fred.

"And me, too," said Bill.

The landlord raised his eyebrows.

"All right," he said. "All right, if you really want double whiskies. But I thought you three young men once told me that you'd never had anything stronger than light ale in your life?"

Already this war has brought adventure to those who had hitherto led the most prosaic lives. JOHN BULL, eager to reveal these true war-time adventures, offers five guineas for every reader's story published. Told in a thousand words, the story must be real experience — *and* it must be about this war.

CAN YOUR 'TOMMY' ASK FOR ROAST BEEF IN FRENCH?

There's a thousand times during the day when he'd bless you for sending him a copy of this wonderful English-French phrase book, "French as you March." He doesn't have to speak a word of French—he just looks up the English phrase such as "What is the time" and there he has the French equivalent put in such a way that he has only to read it out, i.e., "Kell Err Ay Teel." This is French made simple—the ideal book for the Forces.

Here's the very best turn you can possibly do for your man . . . .

SEND HIM A COPY OF

"French As You March" 1/-

Obtainable from Leading Newsagents and Bookstalls, Stationers, Stores and Canteens.

In case of difficulty write for a copy enclosing 1/2 to:—

VEEVERS & HEMSMAN Ltd., Burnley, Lancs

PROTECTION against winter ills

Simpkins

GLUCOSE MEDICATIONS

Glycerine of Thymol—Friars' Balsam — Pine Catarrh — Throat, Chest & Lung Tablets—Halibut Liver Oil Hexagons—Stomach Hexagons.

At Pre-war Prices in 3D. & 6D. units

From Chemists everywhere.

For the mildest touch also include Vita-Glucose and Simpkins Glucose Confections. Ideal for the Xmas Stocking—for old and young alike.

Race with "Silver Ring"

No Derby Smasher

IN the uncertainty that prevails regarding the likelihood of any of the 1940 classic races being run, we should not be able to wax particularly enthusiastic about the next Derby even if we had another Bahram as a winter favourite.

In view of the generally acknowledged mediocrity of the past season's two-year-olds, however, I much doubt if there would be any winter market on the Derby if the international skies were of the deepest blue.

There has been no Orwell, Colombo or Bahram to capture the imagination of the public. Our best two-year-old, Tant Mieux, who incidentally is of French breeding, was fairly and squarely beaten by the little colt Djebel, who is regarded by the best judges in France as being a long way behind potential classic standard. His owner, M. Boussac, made many nominations for the 1940 English classics, but did not think Djebel good enough to enter. In the big races for three-year-olds next season, the best of our bad lot may be Lady Beatty's colt, Black Toni, and Lord Astor's filly, Golden Penny. They appeal to me on looks, and on breeding. But it is quite on the cards that we have not yet heard of the horses who will carry off the 1940 classics—if any.

"SILVER RING'S" CODE.

The Code covers racing from Thursday, December 7, to Wednesday, December 13.

B A K X U Z R 98 N 96 G E D V H J

I 95 S O Y 97 L W T F 94 M P Q C 93

In place of the letters or figures advertised in the *Sporting Life* and *Daily Herald* read those above or below as the case may be. Example: IX94KS95L would read BOGSKAR. Where a double letter occurs in a name the figure 2 is substituted. 98X2P95T would read WOODAN.

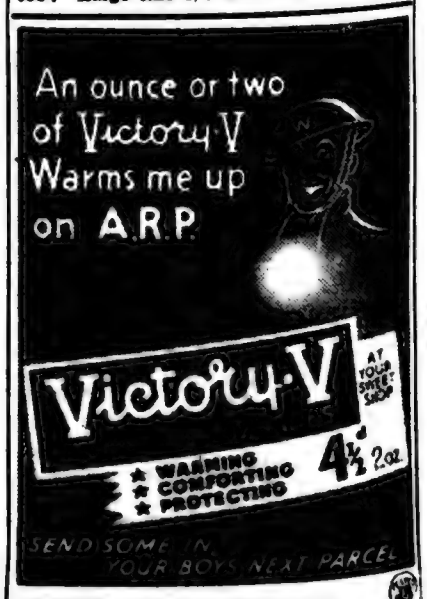
MUSCULAR RHEUMATISM

The scene was the British lines near Ypres during the Great War. Enemy artillery had been pounding away ceaselessly. Suddenly a curious odour came over in the breeze. Men coughed and clutched their chests . . .

Among those who suffered in that first gas attack was Mr. E. B., of Hayes.

"Since leaving the Army," he now writes, "I have also had frequent attacks of muscular rheumatism and lumbago. But a year ago an old Naval man advised me to try Fynnon Salt. After trying so many costly remedies, I felt sceptical about such a simple treatment, but after taking Fynnon regularly I have felt better than for many years. Even during the recent foggy weather I suffered very little. The effect of your Salt is a general toning up of the system."

Fynnon Salt is usually a double surprise to sufferers. While rinsing away the cruel Rheumatic acid and toxins, its Spa Water elements of Sodium, Potassium and Lithium also stimulate liver and kidneys and so cleanse and invigorate the whole system. Take a teaspoonful in a tumblerful of warm water every morning and you will be a better man too! Large tins 1/3 from all Chemists.



85!!

Sews and Reads Without Glasses

Goes For Walk Every Day

Fancy!—eighty-five years old—never needs glasses to sew or read and scorns the aid of a stick when she enjoys her daily walk! How's that for health? What's more, this lady doesn't hesitate to pass on her health secret for the benefit of others. She's taken Holloways Pills for 40 years! Let her tell you what she thinks of them.

"I thought I would like to tell you the benefit I have received from Holloways Pills, which I have taken for over 40 years. I am 85 years old, my health is good, also my sight. I can see to read and do sewing without any glasses. I can go twice to chapel on Sunday without any help and go out for a walk every day without the aid of a stick to do my own shopping. I have recommended Holloways Pills to all my friends, and they all say they are good."

Life Became Grand To a "Bundle of Nerves"

"I am a young married woman with a little family of four. Lately I became a bundle of nerves and suffered severe headaches and stomach pains. I happened to see an advertisement for Holloways Pills and gave them a trial. Two boxes and now I seem a different woman! I don't know myself. Life has suddenly become grand to me. I am going to see that all my friends know about Holloways Pills . . ."

No one whose health is poor can afford to ignore such wonderful examples. If you suffer from Anaemia, Biliousness, Constipation, Debility, Headaches, Indigestion, Liver or Kidney Troubles, Loss of Appetite, Nervines, Rheumatism or Sleeplessness—you should not hesitate to seek the grand health which comes from taking Holloways Brand Pills. Obtainable everywhere at 3d., 1/3, 3/- and 5/-.

"My thoughts grow in the aroma of that particular tobacco."
(*Earl Baldwin, Dundee, 1925*)

Presbyterian Mixture 1/4½

A. GALE & CO., LTD., GLASGOW.

THICK CATARRH

To drive out stubborn phlegm and stop constant hawking, sniffing and coughing, get the scientific Catarrh Remedy—"NOSTROLINE." Smear inside each nostril and gently sniff up. "NOSTROLINE" banishes clogging catarrh mucus in double-quick time! Opens bunged-up breathing passages in 30 seconds! Kills germs. Reduces discharge. Soothes and heals inflammation. Ends Catarrh, Colds, Hay Fever, 'Flu, Head Noises, Catarrhal-Deafness. Perfectly safe. Insist on NOSTROLINE Nasal Remedy, and take nothing else instead. All Chemists, 1/3.

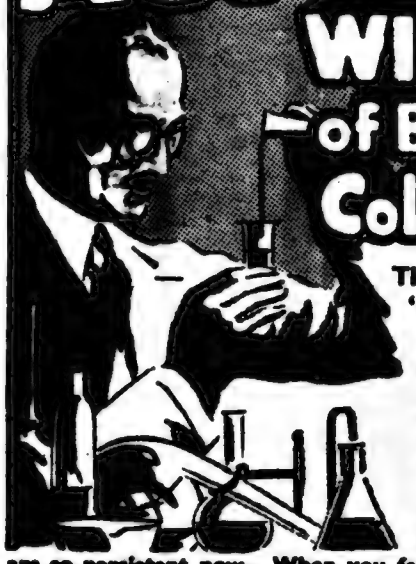
Free Sample from "NOSTROLINE," J. 86, Bristol, 8.

CIRCULATORY DISORDERS

A Free Offer.

★ A GENEROUS sample of Elasto, a remedy for circulatory disorders and kindred ailments, is offered on the Back Cover. This, together with a special free booklet explaining all about Elasto and how it assists in restoring elasticity to relaxed and devitalised veins, will also be sent to those readers who turn to the announcement on the Back Cover and fill in the Free Coupon.

'ASPRO' GETTING ON WITH THE JOB of BANISHING 'Flu Colds & Wintry Ills



That famous old theatrical saying: "The show must go on," is tested more to-day than ever before. People are answering its call—doing their bit—giving service to others and carrying on with the job in the traditional way. 'ASPRO' tablets, too, are getting on with the job. They render their service to humanity by keeping it free from 'flu—pain—colds and wintry ills that are so persistent now. When you feel a bit feverish or sense a cold, shivery sensation then you will know that a cold or influenza attack is near. That's the time to take 'ASPRO' and so banish it in one night. Two 'ASPRO' tablets and a hot lemon drink before retiring will do the trick. You will awake refreshed and ready for the day's work. Delighted users prove our claims. Every letter spells a little appreciation for the service 'ASPRO' has rendered them. Why not give 'ASPRO' an opportunity to solve YOUR HEALTH TROUBLES?

'ASPRO' and a hot lemon drink will work wonders

'ASPRO' BANISHES 'FLU

28 Lockwood Street
Dear Sirs, Monkgate, York.

Just a few lines to let you know how thankful I am for your 'ASPRO'. I think they are marvellous tablets. I have been very ill with the 'flu for over a fortnight and was advised to try your famous 'ASPRO' with hot lemon juice, before going to bed, which I did and was thankful for the result. I was back at work two days after. I shall NOT BE WITHOUT THEM IN MY HOUSE. I shall always have them in my medicine chest.

Believe me, Yours truly,
(Sgd.) G. K. LEE.

'ASPRO' STOPPED THE COLD EVERY TIME

11 Dancer Road,
Dear Sirs, Fulham, S.W.6.

I would like to express my gratitude for many colds averted by 'ASPRO' tablets. As a sufferer from catarrh I am extremely liable to catch a cold from the slightest change of temperature or damp. I found a few years ago that a few 'ASPROS' taken immediately there were signs of "snuffles" promptly stopped further development of the trouble, and since then the only severe colds I have had have been owing to delay in getting 'ASPRO'. I have been glad to recommend them widely to my friends, who have, without exception, thanked me for a really valuable "tip" for staving off a cold. I thought this might interest you as an honest appreciation of your product, coming from a complete stranger.

Yours faithfully, V. MOORE (Mrs.).

TRY 'ASPRO' FOR

INFLUENZA
HEADACHES
SLEEPLESSNESS
NEURALGIA
SCIATICA
GOUT
RHEUMATISM
ALCOHOLIC AFTER-EFFECTS
TOOTHACHE
COLDS
LUMBAGO
IRRITABILITY
NEURITIS
HAY FEVER
NERVE SHOCK
PAINS PECULIAR TO WOMEN
MALARIA
ASTHMA

'ASPRO' consists of the purest Acetylsalicylic Acid that has ever been known to Medical Science, and its claims are based on its superiority.

Made in England by
ASPRO LTD., Slough, Bucks.
Telephone: SLOUGH 22391

No proprietary right is claimed in the method of manufacture or the formula.

YOU CAN'T BEAT 'ASPRO' FOR COLDS

195 Heath Street, Winson Green,
Dear Sirs, Birmingham, 8.

I am writing to thank you for 'ASPRO'. I had a bad cold and you can't beat 'ASPRO' for colds, nerves and bad headaches. I have taken them and recommended them for years.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) E. M. BAILEY (Mrs.).

RHEUMATIC PAINS GO—NURSE WRITES

Dear Sirs, Brighton.

Finding 'ASPRO' all that it states, I feel I must write you as I shall be eternally grateful to you after my past experience. I am a trained nurse and I developed a nasty pain in my right side. It seemed to envelop the whole of my hip, too. I felt it must be rheumatism, developed from a severe chill from swimming in very cold water. Well, yesterday I took 2 'ASPRO' tablets after every meal. I slept throughout the whole of last night and awoke a changed being. You can imagine my joy throughout to-day when I found no pain returning. It has done the trick, and I can shout from the house tops, "'ASPRO' for ever."

Thank you again and again. I shall always recommend it now in the most stubborn cases. Excuse my hilarity but I am so very happy at being well again.—Yours very gratefully,
NURSE E. M———

(*Full name and address withheld for professional reasons.*)

'ASPRO' AS A GARGLE

Two 'ASPRO' tablets in four tablespoonfuls of water make an excellent gargle for sore throat, tonsillitis, and act as a deterrent.

PUBLIC NOTICE. 'ASPRO' prices are not increased. They remain the same as pre-war

3D 6D 1/3 2/6

ALL LEADING CHEMISTS AND STORES STOCK AND DISPLAY 'ASPRO'

ASPRO

ARMY CLUBLETS

AT WORK—

AT REST—

AND AFTER GRUB

The Army asks for ARMY CLUB
THE FRONT-LINE CIGARETTE

Sent DUTY FREE to members of the B.E.F. in France: 200 for 4/- · 100 for 2/- Postage 9d. Order through your tobacconist.

Prices at 'Naafi' canteens with the B.E.F.
10 for 2½d—20 for 5d

ORDINARY PRICES:
10 for 6½D · 20 for 1'0½D

UP like a rocket goes *"John Bull's"* fine Life Pension First for Crosswords, heading the seasonable big Christmas Celebration Offer now before you.

But to capture that splendid Life Income, ***doubled*** for this special contest to FIFTY SHILLINGS WEEKLY FOR LIFE, you have only *one week* to enter.

Tackle Clue No. 1 Across *now* —then on with the rest and see that your entry is posted on or before Saturday, December 16.

N.B.—If you win a cash or any other prize in this Crossword No. 181 and follow it up with a prize big or small, in Crossword No. 182, John Bull will present you with an ADDITIONAL £5 CASH BONUS. Accordingly when you have posted your entry from this page, look out for the Puzzle in next week's issue!

£200 & RADIO FREE!

Each sender of Crossword Entry value 1s. or over may enclose one 6d. Bullets coupon ABSOLUTELY FREE for this week's Great New Xmas Cash and Bonus Offer, provided it bears the same name and address as Crossword entry. Coupons on page 35.

ACROSS CLUES

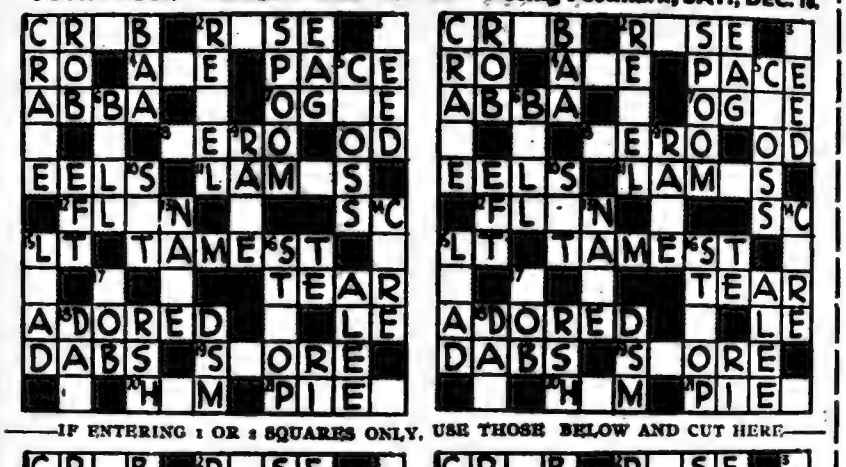
1. There's little doubt that critics sometimes do this
2. You wouldn't expect to get a big one after pruning's taken place
4. It's sometimes rather annoying if you can't get this out of wood
7. Fearsome giant in fairy-tale
8. May have been thought a tyrant by some of the people who knew him
11. Farmer might find it good plan to have number of these on his farm
12. Kind of tart
19. Game which finishes up in big one should be good
20. One might get very tired of this in restaurant every day
21. Less attractive as a rule when cold

DOWN CLUES

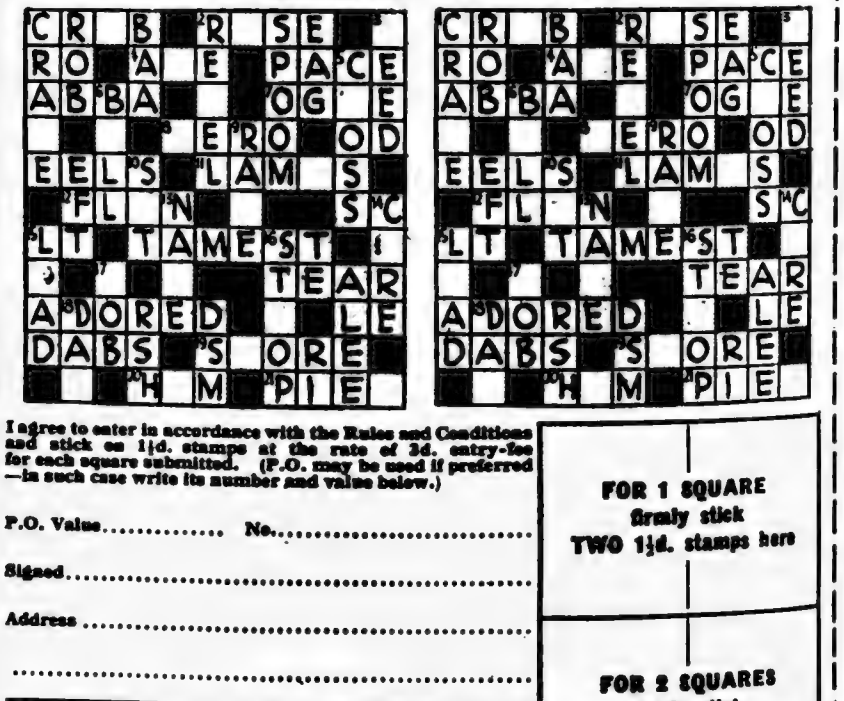
1. Carrying one too far means you'll soon be glad to drop it
2. There may be rather a row when party finishes with one
3. For some people mid-morning snack is a real one
5. Don't spoil youngster's fun by being this at Christmastide
6. Passing it quickly is sometimes of great assistance to defence
9. Plant from which oil can be obtained is this
10. Rested on seat
13. In Wells we have a famous one with which some of our readers are familiar
14. Lines of which may strike people as unattractive
15. Electrician has to consider this carefully when installing new fire in room
16. A kind of strap is sometimes used for this
17. Charging one may involve certain amount of danger
18. You'd be foolish to take on one at wrestling

CUT ROUND THESE BROKEN LINES

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 181. Closing Postmark, SAT., DEC. 16.



IF ENTERING 1 OR 2 SQUARES ONLY, USE THOSE BELOW AND CUT HERE



I agree to enter in accordance with the Rules and Conditions and stick on 1½d. stamps at the rate of 2d. entry-fee for each square submitted. (P.O. may be used if preferred —in such case write its number and value below.)

P.O. Value..... No.....

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

ADDRESS this "GAZETTE" LABEL to YOURSELF to ensure receiving a FREE and POST-FREE copy of the "CROSSWORD GAZETTE" containing Committee's Findings on this Puzzle.

ADD NAME & ADDRESS TO BOTH COUPON AND LABEL.

"GAZETTE" LABEL

NAME IN BLOCK LETTERS.

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FULL POSTAL ADDRESS.

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.....

13 .....

FOR 1 SQUARE firmly stick TWO 1½d. stamps here

FOR 2 SQUARES firmly stick FOUR 1½d. stamps

FOR 3 SQUARES firmly stick SIX 1½d. stamps

FOR 4 SQUARES firmly stick EIGHT 1½d. stamps

IF ENTERING 1, 2, 3 or 4 SQUARES ONLY, USE THE COUPON ABOVE

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Presented on this page is the 181st of JOHN BULL'S entertaining Crossword Puzzles; you are invited to exercise your skill and knowledge by completing it with the guidance of the Clues provided.

Aptness and accuracy of Answers in relation to the Clues form the standard of excellence by which entries will be judged, and all decisions will be based on the Answers of Competitors. This judging will be carried out under the supervision of an expert Adjudication Committee.

Each entry received will be carefully considered and the First Prize-winner will be the competitor who on one Square has completed the Puzzle and has given what, in the opinion of the Adjudication Committee, is the best set of Answers to the Clues provided. And this set of Answers will constitute the winning Puzzle Square.

If at any points in the Puzzle where a choice of words exists it is decided that no one word submitted can be preferred on the test of aptness and accuracy, then competitors there using words of equal merit as Answers will be regarded as having tied at these points, which will be duly indicated when result and winning Puzzle Square appear in JOHN BULL, published Thursday, December 28. The second prize will be awarded to the competitor whose entry is next in order of merit. In the event of a tie or ties the lump sum of £600 will be equally divided; not more than one cash prize and one other prize allowed to any one entrant.

Acceptance of the findings of the Adjudication Committee in regard to the most meritorious entries and of the Editor of JOHN BULL in all other matters is a condition on which entries are accepted and is legally binding on all entrants for this Crossword Competition.

READ THESE RULES

1.—Complete puzzle in ordinary ink, not copying-ink or copying-ink pencil. Entry-fee is at the rate of 3d. for each square submitted; two squares allowed FREE with each six paid. Stamps must be affixed or Postal Order enclosed as entry-fee, as directed on Entry Form. If P.O. used, make payable to Odhams Press Ltd., and cross /& Co./; write name and address and date of posting on back of P.O. and fill in the number on Entry Form. Entry Form to be sent by post as directed (not delivered by hand) and bear POSTMARK of not later than Saturday, December 16, 1939.

2.—Each entrant may submit any number of squares up to sixteen (entry-fee 4/-.) No responsibility is accepted for any entry lost, delayed, not delivered, or misinid, and no correspondence will be entered into.

3.—Should any single letter square be left blank, contain a letter which is not clear, or altered, or not given in ink, the corresponding properly indicated letter on Entry-square alongside will be regarded as entrant's intended letter for both Entry-squares. If entrant's answer cannot be so decided or such flaws occur in more than one letter square, Entry-square concerned will be disqualified, as will any mutilated coupon.

4.—Winner and winning Puzzle Square will appear in JOHN BULL, on sale Thursday, December 28. Entries are accepted only on condition that the published result of our double adjudication establishing the Winner and Runners-up is regarded as final. Merit is established according to the total number of Answers to Clues, both Across and Down, which agree with the winning Puzzle Square.

5.—Should the First Prize be shared, £600 cash will be paid instead of the Pension Award.

6.—Failure to comply with any of the Rules and Conditions involves disqualification.

7.—Employees of Odhams Press Ltd. and members of their families are not eligible to compete.

ADDRESS ENTRY: Crossword No. 181, "John Bull," 57, Long Acre, London, W.C.2 (Comp.)

Note Closing Postmark—SAT., DEC. 16

FOR LIFE

£100 *in* CASH *and* HAMPERS

First Runners-up will share Cash and New Year Hampers to total value of £100

Unlimited SURPRISE AWARDS FOR 2nd RUNNERS-UP

POST ON OR BEFORE **SAT. DEC. 16**

CUT ROUND THESE BROKEN LINES

"JOHN BULL" CROSSWORD No. 181. Closing Postmark, SAT., DEC. 16.

FREE SQUARES BELOW Available only for "John Bull" Crossword No. 181, and if accompanied by paid entries value 1s. 6d.

I agree to enter in accordance with the Rules and Conditions and stick on 1½d. stamps at the rate of 3d. entry-fee for each square submitted. Last two squares FREE if submitting six squares with entry-fee if 1s. 6d. (P.O. may be used if preferred—in such case write its number and value below.)

P.O. value..... No.....

Signed.....

Address .....

.....

2 SQUARES above ALLOWED FREE WITH ENTRY-FEE of 1s. 6d.

FOR 5 SQUARES firmly stick TEN 1½d. stamps

FOR 6 SQUARES firmly stick TWELVE 1½d. stamps (Allowing last 2 Squares FREE)

2 BIG CHEQUES & 48 XMAS HAMPERS WON IN CROSSWORD No. 178.

In connection with "John Bull" Crossword No. 178, the Adjudication Committee decided that the entrants who indicated the most meritorious sets of Answers for one square (see on right) were the following two competitors:—

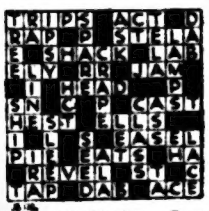
Mrs. BILLINGS, 940, Church Lane, Whitwick, Leicester.

Mrs. L. HENSON, 128, Milton Road, Southampton.

These competitors share the First Prize of £300, and a cheque for £150 will be sent to each.

The Award of £175 in Cash and Christmas Awards to Runners-up has been divided between 48 competitors from whom we received entries inferior in merit by reason of only one less apt and accurate Answer compared with the best entries received. These winners will each receive Cash and Christmas Hamper to the combined value of £3 12s. 11d. A list of these runners-up can be seen at the "John Bull" offices, and all have been notified.

A useful Surprise Award will be posted this week to each of 626 entrants from whom we received an entry differing from entries of Runners-up by only one less meritorious Answer.



The Adjudication Committee decided that the most apt and accurate Answers used by competitors were those seen in the square above.

WINNING WORDS.

ACROSS—1. TRIPS. 5. ACT. 6. SHACK. 9. JAM. 10. HEAD. 12. CAST. 14. HASEL. 16. REVEL. 17. TAP. 18. DAB. 19. ACE.

DOWN—1. TREK. 2. SPARE. 3. ASK. 4. DAB. 5. LAMPS. 7. CRAPE. 8. LINE. 10. HOT. 11. SHIP. 12. CLASP. 13. SHED. 15. LACE.

HURRY! DON'T MISS—

JOHN BULL'S SUPERB WARTIME

XMAS GIFT

TO EVERYONE OF ITS READERS

YOU will have to hurry if you wish to receive "John Bull's" great War Time Xmas Gift in good time for Christmas—don't risk disappointment. APPLY NOW by sending in the special Xmas Gift Vouchers immediately. These cash Vouchers are worth 2/9 and 7/6 respectively TO YOU! Either or both will be accepted in part payment for these exquisite all-British Writing Sets. HURRY!

John Bull — Xmas Gift Voucher — VALUE 2/9

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 2/9 in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 30th December, 1939.

No. A 47091

A FREE 2/9 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 2/9 cash in part payment of "John Bull's" 5/6 Writing Set. The raven-black Pen, handsomely chased, with its graceful streamline effect, delights the eye. It has the latest lever self-filling device. The 14-carat SOLID GOLD nib is tipped with iridium. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil, fitted with a propel-repel-expel movement, matches the Pen, and is complete with "Safety" pocket-clip and extra leads. The Presentation Case gives the finishing touch.

John Bull — Xmas Gift Voucher — VALUE 7/6

This Gift Voucher will be accepted as 7/6 in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. Only one Voucher will be accepted in part payment of each Set. Valid until 30th Dec., 1939.

No. B 47091

*IMPORTANT

Let us send it for you.

If you wish to make a present, why not let us send the Writing Set direct to your friend—all you need do is to put his name and address on the Gift Coupon below.

We will enclose your own Christmas Card if you desire.

A FREE 7/6 GIFT VOUCHER

The Gift Voucher above will be accepted as 7/6 cash in part payment for "John Bull's" 12/6 Writing Set De Luxe. The Pen has two inlaid bands of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD; a large nib of 14-carat SOLID GOLD with a tip of costly iridium; the latest lever self-filling device and a "Safety" pocket-clip. The "Ever-pointed" Pencil has an inlaid band of 18-carat ROLLED GOLD, foolproof propel-repel-expel movement, "Safety" pocket-clip, extra leads. The Pen and Pencil are exquisitely chased. The Presentation Case is beautifully coloured with a Pearl and Butterfly effect.

"John Bull's" Christmas Gift Coupon

To "John Bull" Pen Dept., 134-135, Long Acre, London, W.C.2.

(1) I enclose Gift Voucher value 2/9, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 5/6 Writing Set. I enclose P.O. for 2/9 plus 3d. for postage and insurance, making 3/- in all.

(1) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique.

Cross out grades of nib NOT required.

or

(2) I enclose Gift Voucher value 7/6, which please accept in part payment of the "John Bull" 12/6 Writing Set DE LUXE. I enclose P.O. for 5/- plus 3d. for postage and insurance, making 5/3 in all.

(2) Fine. Medium. Broad. Oblique.

If you desire BOTH SETS send the two Vouchers and a Postal Order for 8/- only.

NAME.....

FULL POSTAL ADDRESS.....

.....

.....

Write clearly in Block Letters.

J.B. 9 12 39

Cross Cheque or Postal Order /& Co./ and make payable to "John Bull."

My Mother Knew

De Witts Pills for BACKACHE

"I suffered severe back pains, weakness, dizzy turns and joint pains. I tried everything without result. Then my mother told me to try De Witts Pills, as she had obtained great relief from them. I noticed an improvement after a few doses, and now am in perfect health."

Mrs. R. N.

Because they are made specially for kidney troubles, women find De Witts Pills give speedy relief. In 24 hours after the first dose, the changed colour of the urine proves their direct action on the kidneys. With kidneys restored to health, backache and other pains cease. Take De Witts Pills to-night. The quick relief you experience to-morrow will become permanent benefit.

DE WITTS (Brand Kidney and Bladder) **PILLS**

end the pain of Backache, Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Joint Pains, Urinary Disorders and all forms of Kidney Trouble. Of all chemists, prices 1/3, 3/- and 5/-.

Have you heard how splendid is the healing, soothing balm, Man Zan? A specially prepared, soothing, healing unguent for blind, bleeding, internal or external piles. Sold in clean-to-use, special applicator tubes, from all chemists. Price 3/-. End the maddening pain and irritation of pile trouble for good with Man Zan Brand Pile Remedy.

FREE from STOMACH TROUBLE

Mrs. E. Keys writes:—"Two years ago I suffered severe heartburn and indigestion. I tried several remedies without benefit. A friend recommended De Witt's Antacid Powder and I obtained immediate relief from the first dose. I am now in perfect health, able to eat and enjoy anything without fear of after-effects. I am very thankful for De Witt's Antacid Powder."

De Witt's Antacid Powder gives instant relief even in chronic cases of indigestion because the first dose really does the trick. It kills acidity, soothes the stomach and aids digestion so that you can eat what you like and enjoy *every* meal.

DE WITT'S ANTACID POWDER

The quick-action remedy for Indigestion, Acid Stomach, Heartburn, Flatulence, Gastritis. Of all chemists, in large sky-blue canisters, prices 1/6 and 2/6.

If your income has been reduced as a result of the war, or you are having any difficulty with your Income Tax assessment under the war budget, we can assist you. Address your enquiry to JOHN BULL'S FREE ADVICE SERVICE, 93, Long Acre, London, W.C.2, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for reply

★ The Last Laugh

THE KID By LEES

Side-Slips

EXPRESS AND ECHO:—"PAP and conditions will be the same as for British infantry."

GLASGOW EVENING NEWS:—"The Union agreed to consider the organising of a series of Sunday evening CONVERTS. . . ."

EVENING STAR:—". . . air-raid warnings given in East Kent area was due to PRESENTS of unidentified aircraft. . . ."

THE DERBYSHIRE TIMES:—"When stewing plums, apples, etc., add a pinch of bicarbonate of SOFA . . ."

FALKIRK HERALD:—". . . but volunteered for WINESWEEPING service 'as proof that I am not shirking danger or inconvenience.'"

T. E. (Clandon).—"I had a quarrel with a publican in London and would have beaten him black and blue had I not been prevented." Who prevented you — the publican?

PTE. H. (Hook).—"The sergeant-major would not take 'No' for an answer, so what could I say?" Yes.

B. S. (Warwick).—"I have been using the same umbrella for fifteen years." You must feel as though you own it by now.

MRS. S. C. (Chester).—"Six years ago. I sent my husband out to buy a loaf of bread and he did not return until to-day." Well, had he got it?

R. B. (Waltham).—"My wife bangs the door when she is angry." You're lucky it's the door she bangs.

R. M. (Thornaby).—"Does any soldier really want to spend Christmas in France?" Oh, yes, plenty of French ones.

P. L. (Woking).—"The moment he played his first card I saw he was cheating." You knew you hadn't dealt him that one?

SAPPER (On leave).—"Poilus are picking up Cockney slang." Pas demi!

D. W. (Ashford).—"Many New York newspapers have highly coloured comic sections." Londoners are content to listen to Hamburg propaganda in English.

CONTRALTO (Hampstead).—"To-day I was given an audition by a well-known producer. It was a terrible ordeal." For whom?

M. C. (Rochester).—"Noise is undoubtedly responsible for the loss of a great deal of time." Burglars will hardly agree with you.

L. M. (Midhurst).—"I am digging up my garden, hoping to make the most of the good earth." You may be calling it poor soil a little later on.

G. L. (Hitchin).—"Is there anything that will prevent the rain coming through the roof of my dug-out?" Yes, fine weather.

E. B. (Colchester).—"Just before it was my turn to entertain the troops I came over funny." That was lucky if you are a comedian.

S. S. (Eastleigh).—"I recently heard of a man with no hands who plays the piano." And we know of a girl with no voice who sings.

MRS. D. (Enfield).—"My small son is now at a school in a safety area and he has just written to say he is at the bottom of his class." Surely that's nothing to write home about?

R. L. (Sussex).—"Some profiteer has been trying to buy up all the holly in this district." Mistletoe will probably be artfully cornered, too.

B. T. (Kent).—"I was in a cinema with my girl when an air raid warning sounded and she was very alarmed." Because the lights went up suddenly?

ENLISTED (Essex).—"Three months ago I was a bus conductor. Now I am driving an Army lorry." Congratulations on working your way to the front!

D. C. (Porchester).—"As I sat in the tea-shop I saw spots before my eyes." Indigestion or dominoes?

J. L. (East Coast).—"While digging in my garden the other day I unearthed a piece of one of the bombs dropped in the last war." Why bring that up?

G. F. (Blandford).—"The sergeant-major is so fond of telling the sergeant to take a man's name for punishment that I wonder if anybody ever took his?" Yes, his wife.

L. B. (Chelsea).—"I am a very successful professional violinist, but I have been turned down for the Army by the medical authorities." Not as fit as your fiddle, apparently.

L. A. (Henfield).—"And on that anniversary evening I really danced as I had never danced before." On your own feet?

P. H. (Bude).—"Christmas crackers will contain miniature guns, bombs and shells this year." Bang up to date.

T. R. (Nuneaton).—"Twenty-five years ago the girls never thought of doing the things they do nowadays." That's why they didn't do them.

R. L. (Windermere).—"Mistletoe will cost much more this year, so what will our pretty girls do?" Just hang the expense, we suppose.

W. P. (Kew).—"I listened to the frantic cheers that greeted Hitler's beer cellar speech at Munich." It was somebody else, however, who actually brought the house down.

J. F. (Cromer).—"Whenever I have a hot bath I get a ringing noise in my ears. Can you tell me what it is?" If your luck is anything like ours, it's just another wrong number.

TANSY (Bedford).—"I know that the story of Mary and her little lamb is pure fiction." Well, that's more than you can say about many of the stories published to-day.

S. B. (Manchester).—"Will there be a seaside holiday season next year?" Why not? It is an exaggeration to say that all our beaches have been dug up and put into sandbags.

H. J. (Stoke).—"I think that those women who are always powdering their noses are most immodest." Not at all. They're so modest that they don't want to shine in public.

HETTY J. (Bath).—"I have put silver thimbles, horseshoes and coins in my Christmas puddings—is there anything else I ought to put in them?" Yes, currants and raisins.

COSTER (Bow).—"I have a suit covered with hundreds of pearl buttons." Goering never thought of that.

S. V. (Harrow).—"He grumbles about the parades but thoroughly enjoys the Army meals." He'd sooner fall to than in.

T. V. (Herts).—"I was showing her round the camp, and when a rifle was fired she threw her arms round my neck in a panic." What did you do then—take her to hear some artillery?

R. E. (Newcastle).—"I think it very clever for me to have found out that butter applied externally eases my lumbago." When rationing starts you may not be able to give yourself a pat on the back.

"I want to see the head of the Crossword department, please—there's a clue in the 'John Bull' puzzle that's holding me up"

Bull's Eye for Grandpa!

SLIPPERS and gruel and dreams of days gone by may be all very well for stage grandpas—but now meet a real one!

Meet 68-year-old "Bulleteer" Allan Broadbent, 66, Main Street, Woodhouse Eaves—to-day just as alert of eye and alive to his opportunities as when he first took up *Bullets* as a hobby in 1919.

"That seems a good many years ago," he told JOHN BULL, "but I'm one who believes in sticking at a thing through thick and thin, good times *and* bad.

"My *Bullet*? Oh, it made *itself* up! I set about the *Example*, AMERICA'S NEUTRAL BUT. Almost in two ticks I'd got down the complete effort, AMERICA'S NEUTRAL BUT—*Help* To Our *Flying*.

* * *

You don't need to be 68 to appreciate a "comforter" like *Bullets* is a hobby for all ages, particularly these black-out evenings. Get down to the *Examples* to-night—they're waiting for you on the opposite page.

GREAT NEW XMAS CASH and BONUS OFFER—ONE WEEK ONLY!

"BULLETS" 2-in-1 FIRST PRIZE

WIN £200

2,140 Other 2-in-1 Prizes

£25 CASH PLUS BLANKETS PAIR OF DOUBLE SIZE

£10 CASH PLUS CUTLERY CANTEEN

£5 CASH PLUS BIG HAMPER

£4 CASH PLUS TEA SET COMBINED WITH BREAKFAST SET

£3 CASH PLUS 10-in-1 LIBRARY

10 of £2-10 EACH PLUS LUXURY CASE

25 of 10/- EACH PLUS FOUNTAIN PEN

100 5/- SURPRISE AWARDS EACH plus EXTRA GIFT

2000 OTHER PRIZES EACH plus EXTRA GIFT

HOW TO WIN YOUR 2-in-1 PRIZE

IN the seasonable big one-week Prize Offer now awaiting your attention, JOHN BULL has arranged *something extra for every winner*.

Enter the best *Bullet* and, in addition to £200 cash, you will receive a handsome Radio. Useful additions to the other big cheques will include double-size Blankets, a Canteen of Cutlery, a combination Tea and Breakfast Set, a big Hamper, 10-in-1 Library, etc.

Each of the cash and other prizes, running into thousands, will be similarly augmented by something extra for this one Contest only.

To make a *Bullet*, simply add TWO, THREE or FOUR words of apt and original comment to any of the *Examples* below.

For instance, working on the *Example*, AMERICA'S NEUTRAL, BUT, a Loughborough entrant added the words *Help* TO OUR *Flying*, and won last week's First Prize. With the winning efforts in our 1,196th Contest on this page as your guide, start on your own efforts, then remember to post them on or before Saturday, December 16.

ENTER on these NEW STAMP or P.O. COUPONS

BULLETS' 1,196 RESULT

First Prize, £200 plus Hamper, Turkey and Cake:
R. S. MICHAELSON, 26, Oxgate Court, London, N.W.

Example: WINSTON'S TONGUE
Bullet: "WHIPS" ENERGIES—"LASHES" ENEMIES.
(Entered on Prize coupon.)

SECOND PRIZE, £20 plus Turkey:
The Rev. G. W. M. LAURENCE, 30, Blackhorse Road, London, E.
Example: Just As In 1914
Bullet: But With "Greater Expedition."

THIRD PRIZE, £10 plus Turkey:
I. GRIFFITHS, 43, Masstwood Road, Leicester.
Example: Heard In The Black-out
Bullet: Dad's Arrival—Hitler's "Destination"!

OTHER PRIZES, each plus Fowl:
£5: W. T. JONES, 32, Nelson Street, Shotton, nr. Chester.
In World To-day—Marvels—And Mars' Evils!
£4: W. C. FLINT, 16, Murray Road, Rugby.
In Germany To-day—Voluble Ministers—Silenced Parsons.
(Entered on Prize coupon.)
£3: A. G. J. PEARCE, 140, Bryngias Road, Newport, Mon.
Winston's Cigar—"Fire" At *Both* Ends.
(Entered on Prize coupon.)

10 PRIZES OF £2 10s. each plus Fowl:
O. P. ALLEN, 1, Ashfield Avenue, Mansfield.
Tiger Gort—Smiling—"Peaceful Adolf," Scowling!
(Entered on Prize coupon.)
R. H. BELL, Bellview, Stock, Essex.
Beyond A Joke—Plumber In "Priority" Car!
R. A. BRUNET, 100, Peel Road, Wembley, Middlesex.
Trust Tommy And—Jack—And "Higher Force"!
R. GROOM, 11, Grove Street, Raunds, Northants.
Heard In The Black-out—Battle—Fido Engaging "Spitfire"!
R. HARRISON, 32, Oakland Road, Mumbles, Swansea.
Help The Fighters And—Make Your "Tin" Sword.
Miss M. HILL, 20, North Ham Road, Littlehampton, Sussex.
Now Dad's A Special—Mother, Warden—Children, Lawless!
(Entered on Prize coupon.)
Mrs. E. R. LISK, 19, Palmersfield Road, Banstead, Surrey.
To Be On The Safe Side—Of Dad's Sandbags, Impossible!
R. MALLINSON, 108, Littlehampton Road, Worthing.
Heard In The Black-out—"Sorry! Sorry! Sorry!—Taxi!"
A. H. MILNE, 52, High Street, Arbroath, Angus.
Armed To The Teeth—Even *Milk* Teeth, Nasis!
P. SHORTING, 34, Romany Road, Norwich.
In France To-day—Dad's "Image," Imitating Dad.

List of winners of 30 Turkeys, 30 Fowls and 30 Xmas Cakes can be seen at these offices.

BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE

NAME.....

Full Postal ADDRESS.....

.....

ADDRESS LABEL ABOVE TO YOURSELF—AND SO SECURE POST-FREE COPY OF "BULLETS" BULLETIN, DATED JAN. 6, YOUR FREE GUIDE TO SUCCESS

13

CUT RIGHT ROUND THIS DOTTED LINE

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

"BULLETS" No. 1,200

I agree to enter in accordance with rules.

Closing postmark, SAT., DEC. 16.

NAME and ADDRESS on both LABEL and COUPON

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

ADD YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS TO LABEL ALSO

1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP

For one "Bullet" stick 1½d. stamp to each space above. For two "Bullets" stick additional 1½d. stamp to each space above.

Stick 1½d. Stamp here at rate of 3d. ENTRY-FEE for each "Bullet" submitted. P.O may be used if preferred—if so, write its number and value across stamp space.

ADD 2, 3 or 4 WORDS to any "EXAMPLE"

SHADOW OF THE SWASTIKA
ACCORDING TO GOEBBELS
THE CENSOR
LOYAL ALLY
RIDING FOR A FALL
HE'S ON THE STAFF, SO
TERRIBLE PRICE
OUR CHARLADY
KEY TO PEACE
ONE THING MISSING
MAKES GRANDPA MAD
SOMETHING WENT WRONG AND
TREAT FOR FRITZ
FROM THE TRENCHES
FALSE FRIENDS
WANTS RATIONING
NOW DAD'S A FIREMAN
OVERWORKED
IF WORDS COULD KILL
WAR DEMANDS

Six "Examples" below are for completion with any ONE additional word of your choice in the position indicated by dotted line. Thus you will find it easy to discover attractive and differing "Examples" on which to build your "Bullets" as instructed.

WHEN TOMMY .....
ROAD TO .....
HURT .....
WHAT ..... CAN DO
FAMILY .....
PROBLEM FOR .....

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

"BULLETS" No. 1,200

I agree to enter in accordance with rules.

Closing postmark SAT., DEC. 16

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP	1½d. STAMP

For one "Bullet" stick 1½d. stamp to each space above. For two "Bullets" stick additional 1½d. stamp to each space above.

Stick 1½d. Stamps here at rate of 3d. ENTRY-FEE for each "Bullet" submitted. P.O. may be used if preferred—if so, write its number and value across stamp space.

FREE COUPON FOR THIS COMPETITION IF USED AS INSTRUCTED BELOW

EXAMPLE
BULLET
EXAMPLE
BULLET

FREE PRIVILEGE ENTRY

I enclose TWO or more paid 6d. (or prize) coupons for *Bullets* No. 1,200, all entered in same name and address, entitling me to this coupon FREE.

SIGNED .....

ADDRESS .....

RULES.—1. First prize will be awarded for what, in the opinion of the judges in consultation with the Editor, is the best *Bullet* received, and the other prizes in order of merit, the test being cleverness, aptness and originality. The Editor undertakes that every *Bullet* received shall have careful consideration by a competent staff of qualified judges. 2. Only two attempts may be written on each coupon and stamps must be stuck or Postal Order enclosed as directed on coupon. If P.O. used, make payable to JOHN BULL, cross /& Co./, write name and address on back. Coupons must not be mutilated. 3. The Editor's decision on any matter of dispute arising in connection with this competition must be accepted as final and legally binding in all respects and acceptance of this rule is an express condition of entry. Employees of Odhams Press Ltd: and their families are not eligible.

N.B. If desired, Crossword entry, made in accordance with Rules on page 32, may be enclosed with *Bullets*; double your prize-winning opportunity by also entering a Crossword each week.

ADDRESS ENTRY: "BULLETS" No. 1,200, "JOHN BULL," LONG ACRE, LONDON, W.C.2 (Comp.).

ONE WEEK ONLY
Closing postmark
SATURDAY, DEC. 16

For the BLOOD, VEINS, ARTERIES and HEART

It Acts Like Magic!

Elasto
REGISTERED
The Wonder Tablet

Take it—and Stop Limping

EVERY sufferer should test this wonderful new Biomedical remedy which brings quick relief from pain and weariness and creates within the system a new health force; overcoming sluggish, unhealthy conditions, increasing vitality and arousing to full activity the inherent healing powers of the body. No ailment resulting from poor or sluggish circulation of the blood can resist the curative action of 'Elasto'. Varicose veins are restored to a healthy condition, the heart becomes steady, the arteries supple, skin troubles clear up, leg wounds (bad leg) *heal naturally and the cure is lasting*, piles vanish, and rheumatism, in all its forms, is literally swept out of the system. This is not magic, *although the relief does seem magical*; it is the natural result of revitalised blood and improved circulation brought about by 'Elasto'—*the tiny tablet with wonderful healing powers.*

Read What Users of 'Elasto' Say!

"No sign of varicose veins now."

"My Doctor highly praises 'Elasto'."

"Varicose veins quickly cured after 12 years of useless bandaging."

"As soon as I started taking 'Elasto' I could go about my work in comfort, no pain whatever."

"'Elasto' has quite cured my eczema."

"For seven years my leg had been running from four varicose ulcers and I cannot describe the pain I suffered. Now they have all healed and my general health has greatly improved due to the wonderful qualities of 'Elasto'."

"My Piles are gone; my legs are better, and I feel fitter in my general health."

"Suffered for years from a weak heart, but 'Elasto' cured me."

"The swelling from ankles to thighs has entirely gone, and I can do a full day's work keeping on my legs all day."

"I have suffered years of agony with varicose veins and phlebitis, but thanks to 'Elasto', my leg is now completely cured."

"Had rheumatism so badly I could hardly walk, but 'Elasto' cured me."

"The stinging sensation I used to get in my left arm and leg (arterio-sclerosis) is quite gone and my general health is much improved."

"My skin is as soft as velvet, thanks to 'Elasto'."

"It is wonderful to be free from that terrible pain and to be able to walk upstairs without getting short of breath."

"I was in awful agony and could not walk. My family and friends are astounded: the results are magic."

"Lumbago cured after three years of suffering, age 60."

"Cured my sciatica 12 months ago, still quite fit." Etc., Etc.

THESE extracts are taken from letters received from grateful people who KNOW, who have tested and proved for themselves the extraordinary health-restoring powers of 'ELASTO'—the wonderful new Biomedical remedy. We guarantee the authenticity of every extract quoted.

Not a Drug, But a Vital Cell-Food!

What is 'Elasto'? This question is fully answered in an interesting Booklet, which explains in simple language this amazing new method of *curing through the blood.* Your copy is free, together with a generous Free Sample (see coupon below). Suffice it to say here that 'Elasto' is not a drug, but a vital cell-food which must be present in the blood to ensure complete health. It restores to the blood the vital elements which combine with the blood albumin to form organic elastic tissue and thus enables *Nature* to restore elasticity to the broken-down and devitalised fabric of veins, arteries and heart, and so to re-establish normal, healthy circulation, *without which there can be no true healing!* The health of every organ and tissue of the body depends upon healthy cellular activity, and to ensure this, vigorously circulating, oxygen-rich blood is absolutely essential. NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN THE REAL TROUBLE IS BAD CIRCULATION.

Stagnation Means Decay!

SOME of the most painful and distressing ailments that afflict mankind are the direct result of poor or sluggish circulation of the blood. Take, for example, that very common disability, varicose veins. Here we have one of the physical consequences of cell-starvation, a weakening of the vein walls and of the surrounding tissues due to an impoverished blood supply brought about by a stagnating blood stream, or, in other words, bad circulation. In all diseased conditions, no matter what the ailment may be, the blood stream is at fault and no treatment can give lasting results if this all-important fact is overlooked. Keep the blood free-running like a deep, fast-flowing river, enrich it with the necessary elements for cell building and for the removal of toxic waste materials, and health MUST result. NINE TIMES OUT OF TEN THE REAL TROUBLE IS BAD CIRCULATION.

FREE

A Generous Sample of this Wonder Remedy

Fill in This Coupon

for a Free Sample and a Free Booklet fully explaining 'Elasto'—the new Biomedical Remedy. These, with copies of recent testimonials, we will gladly send privately, post free. Don't lose another moment! Write for these to-day—NOW, WHILE YOU THINK OF IT, AND SEE FOR YOURSELF WHAT A WONDERFUL DIFFERENCE 'ELASTO' MAKES!!

This offer is too good to be missed! ★

'ELASTO' (DEPT. 15.E), CECIL HOUSE, HOLBORN VIADUCT, LONDON, E.C.

'Elasto' is sold by Chemists Everywhere

JOHN BULL COUPON

for Free Trial Sample of 'Elasto' ★

'ELASTO' (Dept. 15.E), Cecil House, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C.

Please send me Free Sample and Special Free Booklet, "The Story of 'Elasto'," fully explaining how Elasto, The Great Blood Revitaliser, cures through the blood.

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

.....

.....

.....

J.B. No. 91239.

(Issued by the New Era Treatment Co. Ltd.)

'Elasto' will save you pounds!

F.25 J.B.L. 101 88*

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